

## **NORDIC DOCUMENTATION PROJECT WORKSHOP**

**Title: “The Special Fund to Combat Racism and the Southern Africa liberation movements”**

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### **Abstract**

At its fourth General Assembly held at Uppsala, in Sweden, the World Council of Churches (WCC) finally decided to act against the evil of racism. This was after twenty years of making statements and declarations against racism. Thereafter the WCC set up a global Program to Combat Racism (PCR) which went on to fight racism in the various parts of the world where this existed. Southern Africa became the priority area for the PCR, because of the racist white minority regimes which oppressed and exploited the black majority populations in the region. More importantly, the PCR had a Special Fund to Combat Racism. Many of the Southern Africa liberation movements were recipients of grants from this Special fund, until they achieved their political freedom. These liberation movements were also engaged in armed struggle. The financial support by the WCC to the liberation movements became one of the most controversial issues in church history. The WCC was accused of supporting and encouraging violence. The WCC started this Special Fund to Combat Racism, at a time, when it was itself in a financial predicament. The WCC however managed to sustain this fund because of support from the Nordic countries. The paper will thus shed light on the contribution of the Nordic countries to this Special Fund to Combat Racism.