In view of the current events around the Black Lives Matter protests against police brutality and killings, racism, systemic racism, social/economic injustices and discrimination, the Senior Management Team and the Board thought now is an important moment to re-affirm Carbon Tracker’s stance against racism in all its forms.

Although these issues are nothing new to most, the horrific killing of George Floyd witnessed by many and the resulting protests have been an important eye opener and have caused serious distress, especially to those in the direct targeting line - Black people and other ethnic minorities.

The issues around brutality, racism, systemic racism, and other injustices have been pushed into the spotlight, and the peaceful protests involving people from diverse backgrounds and age groups coming together to take a stand and speak out in solidarity, the discussions being had, the self-reflections and demand for change have been inspiring and encouraging.

Some of you may be wondering what these issues have to do with Carbon Tracker – from a humanitarian point of view – everything! As part of Carbon Tracker’s values, as much as we are against the harming of our climate and planet, we firmly stand against any form of racism, discrimination and exclusion within our organisation and the outside world and are committed to diversity, equity, fairness and inclusivity for all people.

These issues are quite complex and sensitive and any dialogue around racism, discrimination, unconscious bias, and skin privilege is never easy, can be quite uncomfortable and awkward, but that’s ok - these discussions are necessary to have in order to nurture a better understanding of the realities of someone else’s world outside of your own, with humility, compassion and grace - hopefully bringing about a positive outcome for change in attitudes and perceptions. We want Carbon Tracker to be a safe place for anyone to feel free to bring forward any concerns around these issues or feel free to just have discussions they might feel the need to have.

These issues reach into every aspect of society, at individual and organisational levels. In the world of climate finance, the term “brown finance” has sometimes been used to refer to carbon-intensive industries that are causing the climate crisis. But brown is not the same as any other colour, given its link to race – using it as a proxy for fossil fuel industries may have negative connotations and can be considered offensive. For this reason, we use non-offensive alternatives.

We recognise that the world needs more Black and Ethnic minorities in leadership in climate finance institutions and in climate NGOs and organisations, which is why we set up the DEI Committee and we have been successful in increasing the diversity of our team over the last couple of years.

While Carbon Tracker has been embarking on this journey of creating a more diverse, equitable and inclusive organisation and through the great efforts made by setting up the DEI Committee, holding DEI workshops, improving our recruitment process, we are on the right path, but there is still more to be done and we are committed to carrying on with the journey and doing what we can to lead by example with actions and not just words and we want to do this together as a team.

2020 to date has been extremely challenging also with the spread of COVID-19 spread and lockdown and we want to thank all our staff for all the great work, their motivation and good spirit in keeping things moving forward at Carbon Tracker while working from home.

Mark Campanale (Executive Chair)
Tauni Lanier (Non-Exec Director, Chair of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Committee)
Jon Grayson (CEO)

On behalf of the Board and Senior Management Team of Carbon Tracker Initiative Limited

© 2020 Carbon Tracker Initiative. All Rights Reserved.
2nd floor, 40 Bermondsey Street, SE1 3UD London - UK, http://www.carbontracker.org