

# Sample Policy on Racial Equality

### 1. Introduction

- 1.1 [Organisation's name] is committed to making full use of the talents, skills, experience, cultural perspectives of different people, and to making sure that it is an organization where they are respected and valued and can achieve their full potential, regardless of race, colour, descent, or national or ethnic origins;
- 1.2 [Organisation's name] will comply with the Race Discrimination Ordinance and will follow the recommendations in the Code of Practice issued by the Equal Opportunities Commission under the Ordinance.

#### 2. Objectives

- 2.1 The objectives of this policy are to ensure that:-
  - (1) No one will be treated less favourably on the grounds of race, colour, descent, national or ethnic origins;
  - (2) No one from any racial group will suffer a detriment from any requirements or conditions which cannot be justified on non-racial grounds;
  - (3) Opportunities for employment, training and career development are equally open to all qualified people regardless of race, colour, descent, national or ethnic origins;
  - (4) Everyone is treated with respect and dignity and no one will be subjected to any unwelcome conduct, or to an environment that is hostile or intimidating, on the ground of race, colour, descent, national or ethnic origins;
  - (5) The grievance system is properly administered regardless of race, colour, descent, national or ethnic origins; and there will be no reprisal against anyone raising concerns or complaints or taking action on discrimination or harassment on the grounds of race, colour, descent, national or ethnic origins.





## 3. Implementation

- 3.1 This policy will be a priority for [Organisation's name];
- 3.2 [Position] will have overall responsibility for this policy; and [Position (if different)] will be responsible for the day-to-day operation of this policy;
- 3.3 The policy will be communicated to all workers and job applicants;
- 3.4 Workers and management staff will be consulted about the policy and its implementation;
- 3.5 Workers and management staff will be trained on the policy and their rights and responsibilities;
- 3.6 Opportunities for employment, promotion, transfer and training will be advertised widely, internally and externally, and all applicants will be welcomed, regardless of race, colour, descent, national or ethnic origins;
- 3.7 Selection criteria and performance appraisals will be entirely related to the job or training opportunity;
- 3.8 The effectiveness of this policy will be monitored regularly. Information on the ethnic and racial backgrounds of workers and applicants for employment, promotion and training will be collected and analysed, to monitor the implementation of this policy. Grievances, disciplinary action, performance assessment and termination of employment will also be monitored by racial group. The information will be held in strictest confidence and will only be used to promote equality and prevent discrimination;
- 3.9 Terms and conditions of employment, rules and practices, requirements and conditions will be reviewed in the light of monitoring results with a view to take steps to promote equality and prevent discrimination in consultation with employees, workers and management staff;



#### 3.10 Harassment on the ground of race

- (1) Every worker will be treated with respect and dignity. All workers have a right to work in an environment that is free from abuse or insults, where individuals treat each other with respect and value politeness.
- (2) Harassment on the ground of race, colours, descent, national or ethnic origins is unacceptable. Workers must not take part in, or encourage, condone or gossip about cases of harassment or bullying. No one should be subjected to any unwelcome conduct, or to an environment that is hostile or intimidating, on the ground of race, colours, descent, national or ethnic origins. Workers should be supportive of fellow workers who are victims of harassment. Examples of unacceptable conduct include:-
  - (a) Racially derogatory remarks or insults; for example, name calling which people of certain racial groups may find offensive or impolite should be avoided;
  - (b) Display of graffiti or slogans or other objects offensive to certain racial groups;
  - (c) Racist jokes, banter, ridicule or taunts;
  - (d) Using a disparaging or offensive tone when communicating with people on the ground that they belong to certain racial groups;
  - (e) Ostracize people on the ground that they belong to certain racial groups;
  - (f) Imposing excessive workloads or unrealistic performance targets on people on the ground of their race, colour, descent, national or ethnic origins;
  - (g) Unnecessarily picking on individuals from particular racial groups.
- 3.11 Complaints about discrimination or harassment on the ground of race, colour, descent, national or ethnic origins will be taken seriously and dealt with effectively and promptly and may result in disciplinary sanctions including dismissal.

Source: The sample policy is extracted from the Code of Practice on Employment under the Race Discrimination Ordinance (2009)

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