

Karen Carberry

19<sup>th</sup> April 2024

Adoption of preliminary conclusions and recommendations for the 3<sup>rd</sup> session

My name is Karen Carberry, I UK born and of Jamaican heritage and linked to all here through our blessed ancestors. I am a family therapist and systemic psychotherapist, a visiting lecturer at the University of Oxford and an Advisory Member of the Humanity Summit.

Following the earthquake in 2010, I was honoured to spend 7 years with Haitian transgenerational communities in Haiti and the Dominican Republic, collaborating with community leaders to ensure that all systemic therapeutic interventions took note of the spirituality, belief systems and ways of being from a Haitian perspective. This was imperative to avoid colonising precious minds.

Our work is published in the International Handbook of Black Community Mental Health of which I am a co-editor. The title of our chapter is Systemic Family Therapy with Transgenerational Communities in Haiti and the Dominican Republic with community leaders Pastor Jean Gerald Lafleur and Reverend Genel Jean-Claude. This work gave hope, testimonies of healing, and provided a model of 'each one teaches one' as in 'each community of families teach another'. This I believe gives context of the strength of the Haitian people. Together, we have been able to contribute to the healing of trauma and loss across generations and bring hope in their family relationships and aspirations for the future.

My recommendation is for this work to be collaborated with and funded for the Haitian people to continue to heal and prosper.