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A world focus on Aborigines' conditions

A TEAM that will give Aborigines an international voice will leave Sydney tomorrow to meet Aboriginal people throughout Australia.

Members of the World Council of Churches who have come from Pakistan, East Germany, Costa Rica, the U.S., South Korea, Zaire and Britain will assess the position of the Aboriginal people.

The director of the council Program to Combat Racism, Professor Awar Barkat, said some members of the team had directly experienced racism at its deepest level, while others were part of the society where racism was rampant.

Fair deal

"We hope the Aboriginal community will be able to speak through the World Council of Churches after we have finished the visit," he said.

Mr Gary Foley, chairman of the Aboriginal Advisory Committee of the Australian Council of Churches, said Aboriginal people believed they would get a fairer hearing internationally than they would in Australia.