16.3 RAPPORT 2 – DEPUTATE EKUMENISITEIT BINNELANDS – VERHOUDINGE NGK EN NHKA (Artt 26, 27)

16.3 REPORT 2 – DEPUTIES ECUMENICITY INLAND – RELATIONS NGK AND NHKA (Arts 26, 27)

A. Ds C Aucamp stel die Rapport en Aanvullende Rapport.
Rev C Aucamp tables the Report and Supplementary Report.

B. Die Rapporte word staande die Sinode afgehandel.
The Reports will be concluded during the Synod session.

C. **RAPPORT / REPORT**

1. Tussenkerklike Raad	**1. Tussenkerklike Raad (Interchurch Council)**
1.1 *Opdrag (Acta 2015:144, 1.3.3 en 1.3.4)*	1.1 *Mandate (Acta 2015:144, 1.3.3 and 1.3.4)*
1.1.1 Die Sinode keur die aanbeveling insake die voortsetting van die werksaamhede van die Tussenkerklike Raad – soos hierbo gegee – goed.	1.1.1 The Synod approves the recommendation regarding the continuation of the activities of the TKR as mentioned above.
1.1.2 Die te benoeme Deputate gaan voort om aan die Tussenkerklike Raad deel te neem en alle opdragte soos vervat in die Grondslag van die Tussenkerklike Raad uit te voer.	1.1.2 The to be appointed Deputies continue to participate in the TKR and to execute all mandates as contained in the founding document of the TKR.
1.1.3 Die te benoeme Deputate gee binne die Tussenkerklike Raad aandag aan die nodige wysigings van die Grondslag van die Tussenkerklike Raad en lê dit aan die volgende Sinode voor vir goedkeuring.	1.1.3 The to be appointed Deputies give attention within the TKR to the necessary amendments to the founding document of the TKR and tables it before the next Synod for approval.
1.2 <u>*Vir kennisname:*</u> *Verloop van die gesprek*	1.2 <u>*To be noted:*</u> *Course of the discussion*
1.2.1 Gedurende hierdie termyn het vergaderings van die TKR in 2015, 2016 en 2017 plaasgevind volgens die besluite van 2012 en 2013 om slegs een maal per jaar te vergader.	1.2.1 During this term meetings of the TKR took place in 2015, 2016, and 2017 in accordance with the decisions of 2012 and 2013 to only meet once annually.
1.2.2 Gedurende die termyn het die NGK die voorsitterskap en skribaat van die TKR beklee.	1.2.2 During the term the NGK held the positions of chair and scribe of the TKR.
1.2.3 Die gesprek binne die TKR is die afgelope termyn weereens gekenmerk deur indringende besinning aangaande die funksionering en toekoms van die TKR, terwyl die krities-opbouende gesprekke na die bilaterale gesprekke gekanaliseer is.	1.2.3 The discussion within the TKR during the past term was once again characterised by incisive reflection on the functioning and future of the TKR, while the critical-edifying discourses were channelled to the bilateral discussions.
1.2.4 Telkens is weer bevestig dat die drie kerkgemeenskappe – gegewe die geskiedenis van die pad met mekaar – hierdie gesprek nie maar net kan laat los nie.	1.2.4 Time and time again it was again reiterated that the three church communities – given their shared history – cannot simply leave this discussion.

1.2.5 Daarmee saam is gestel dat die TKR nie sonder meer kan ontbind nie, maar ook nie sonder meer en ongekwalifiseerd kan bly voortbestaan nie.	1.2.5 In addition it was stated that the TKR cannot simply dissolve, nor continue to exist without another word and without qualification.
1.2.6 Gevolglik is ooreengekom dat die TKR hom steeds vir die huidige daarop toespits om, soos dit in die historiese perspektief van die huidige Grondslag van die TKR verwoord is, die verhouding tot ‘n hegter kerkregtelik-verantwoorde eenheid te voer.	1.2.6 Consequently it was agreed that the TKR continues for the time being to focus on, as it is expressed in the historical perspective of the current Founding Document of the TKR, bringing the relationship to a more intimate unity which is grounded in terms of church polity.
1.2.7 Die wysiging van die Grondslag van die TKR in die lig van 1.2.6 is nog nie afgehandel nie.	1.2.7 The amendment of the Founding Document of the TKR in the light of 1.2.6 has not yet been completed.
1.2.8 Die TKR het gedurende die termyn veral ook aandag geskenk aan feesvieringe rondom Refo 500 in 2017.	1.2.8 During this term, the TKR especially focussed attention on the anniversary of the Reformation in 2017.
1.2.8.1 Die sentrale byeenkoms is in die vorm van ‘n massa erediens in die Moreleta Ouditorium gehou. ‘n Massakoor en simfonie-orkes het die gemeentesang begelei. Prof G Breed het ‘n deel van die Woordverkondiging waargeneem.	1.2.8.1 The central gathering held in the form of a mass worship service in the Moreleta Auditorium. A mass choir and symphony orchestra accompanied the congregational singing. Prof G Breed led a part of the proclamation of the Word.
1.2.8.2 Streeksbyeenkomste in Kaapstad, Bloemfontein, Windhoek en Potchefstroom. Dit is deur plaaslike komitees gereël.	1.2.8.2 Regional gatherings in Cape Town, Bloemfontein, Windhoek, and Potchefstroom. These were organised by local committees.
1.2.8.3 Die verhoogstuk *Uit Diep van Donker Nagte* onder regie van Ina Opperman wat vir vier aande in die GK Centurion opgevoer is.	1.2.8.3 The stage production *Uit Diep van Donker Nagte* under direction of Ina Opperman which was performed for four shows at GK Centurion.
1.2.8.4 Die musiekblyspel *Houtkruis*, wat die Hervorming as agtergrond en tema het.	1.2.8.4 The musical *Houtkruis* which had the Reformation as background and theme.
1.2.8.5 ‘n Verhoogstuk *Luther*, geskryf deur ds C Aucamp, opgevoer deur Carel Trichardt en Petru Wessels.	1.2.8.5 A stage production *Luther*, written by Rev C Aucamp, performed by Carel Trichardt and Petru Wessels.
1.2.8.6 Koördinering en bekendstelling op die webblad van publikasies oor die Hervorming.	1.2.8.6 Coordination and promotion of the website with publications on the Reformation.
1.2.8.7 Koördinering en bekendstelling op die webblad van plaaslike aksies rondom Refo 500.	1.2.8.7 Coordination and promotion on the website of local activities regarding Refo 500.
Besluit: Punte 1.1 tot 1.2.8.7 kennis geneem.	**Decision: Points 1.1 to 1.2.8.7 noted.**
1.3 <u>*Vir besluitneming*</u>	1.3 <u>*To be decided*</u>
1.3.1 Die Sinode keur die optrede van die Deputate soos hierbo gemeld, goed.	1.3.1 The Synod approves of the actions of the Deputies as mentioned above.
1.3.2 Die te benoeme Deputate gaan voort om aan die Tussenkerklike Raad deel te neem en alle opdragte soos vervat	1.3.2 The to be appointed Deputies continue to participate in the TKR and to execute all mandates as contained

in die Grondslag van die Tussenkerklike Raad uit te voer.	in the Founding Document of the TKR.
1.3.3 Die te benoeme Deputate gee binne die Tussenkerklike Raad verder aandag aan die nodige wysigings van die Grondslag van die Tussenkerklike Raad en lê dit aan die volgende Sinode voor vir goedkeuring.	1.3.3 The to be appointed Deputies continue to give attention within the TKR to the necessary amendments to the Founding Document of the TKR and tables it before the next Synod for approval.
Besluit: Punte 1.3.1 tot 1.3.3 goedgekeur.	**Decision: Points 1.3.1 to 1.3.3 approved.**
2. Parlementêre Lessenaar	**2. Parliamentary Desk**
2.1 *Opdrag (Acta 2015:145, 2.3.1)*	2.1 *Mandate (Acta 2015:145, 2.3.1)*
2.1.1 Dat die te benoeme Deputate die kontak en skakeling met die Parlementêre lessenaar van die NG Kerk op 'n informele en *ad hoc*-basis voorsit.	2.1.1 That the to be appointed Deputies continue the contact and liaison with the Parliamentary Desk of the NGK on an informal and ad hoc basis.
2.2 <u>*Vir kennisname*</u>	2.2 <u>*To be noted*</u>
2.2.1 Die Parlementêre lessenaar funksioneer nie tans op enige wyse nie.	2.2.1 The Parliamentary Desk is currently not functioning in any manner.
2.2.2 Daar was gevolglik geen noodsaak vir die Deputate om die kontak en skakeling met die Parlementêre lessenaar van die NG Kerk voort te sit nie.	2.2.2 There is subsequently no necessity for the Deputies to continue contact and liaison with the Parliamentary Desk of the NGK.
Besluit: Punte 2.1 tot 2.2.2 kennis geneem.	**Decision: Points 2.1 to 2.2.2 noted.**
2.3 <u>*Vir besluitneming*</u>	2.3 <u>*To be decided*</u>
2.3.1 Dat die te benoeme Deputate die kontak en skakeling met die Parlementêre lessenaar van die NG Kerk voortsit, sou die Parlementêre lessenaar weer in die toekoms op enige wyse funksioneer.	2.3.1 That the to be appointed Deputies continue the contact and liaison with the Parliamentary Desk of the NGK, should the Parliamentary Desk function again in any manner in future.
Besluit: Goedgekeur.	**Decision: Approved.**
3. Bilaterale gesprek: *Nederduitsch Hervormde Kerk van Afrika*	**3. Bilateral Discussion: *Nederduitsch Hervormde Kerk van Afrika***
3.1 *Opdrag (Acta 2015:145, 3.3.1)*	3.1 *Mandate (Acta 2015:145, 3.3.1)*
3.1.1 Die te benoeme Deputate gaan voort met bilaterale gespreksvoering met die NHKA.	3.1.1 The to be appointed Deputies continue with bilateral discussions with the NHKA.
3.2 <u>*Vir kennisname*</u>	3.2 <u>*To be noted*</u>
3.2.1 Gedurende die afgelope drie jaar het die NHKA 'n rustiger tyd beleef na die interne spanning van die vorige drie jaar.	3.2.1 During the past three years the NHKA experienced a calmer period after the internal tensions of the previous three years.
3.2.2 'n Enkele bilaterale byeenkoms het in 2015 plaasgevind. Tydens hierdie byeenkoms het die Kerke onderneem om die gesprek nuwe momentum te gee met 'n memorandum van ekumeniese verhouding as einddoel.	3.2.2 A single bilateral meeting was held in 2015. During this meeting the Churches undertook to give new momentum to the discussion with a memorandum of ecumenical relation as end goal.
3.2.3 Gedurende 2016 kon die gesprek nie verder gevoer word nie, en die	3.2.3 During 2016 the discussion could not be taken forward, and the Deputies

Deputate het gehoop om voor die einde van 2017 wel so gesprek te reël. Sodanige gesprek sal indringende invra oor die NHKA se 2016-besluit oor selfdegeslagverhoudings insluit. Hieroor sal, indien nodig, aanvullend rapporteer word.	hoped to arrange a meeting before the end of 2017. Such a discussion would include intensive questions regarding the NHKA's 2016 decision on same-sex relationships. On this meeting a supplementary report will follow, if necessary.
3.2.4 Gesprek met die Geloofsbond van Hervormde Gemeentes (gemeentes wat voorheen deel van die NHKA was) word nie prinsipieel deur die Deputate uitgesluit nie (daar bestaan voorbeelde uit die buitelandse kerke waar verhoudinge met kerke of kerklike groeperinge na skeuring of afskeiding gehandhaaf is). Sodanige gesprek sal met sensitiwiteit teenoor bestaande ekumeniese verhoudings gevoer word.	3.2.4 Discussions with the *Geloofsbond van Hervormde Gemeentes* (congregations that previously formed part of the NHKA) are not ruled out by the Deputies (there exist examples from churches abroad where relations with churches or church groupings after chasm or breakaway were maintained). Such discussions will be conducted with sensitivity towards existing ecumenical relations.
3.2.5 'n Versoek is vanaf die Nederduitsch Hervormde Kerk van Afrika ontvang om 'n groeteboodskap namens die GKSA oor te dra tydens hul Algemene Kerkvergadering gedurende September 2016. Die Deputate het ds C Aucamp en prof J Smit afgevaardig om die Algemene Kerkvergadering by te woon, en ds C Aucamp het die groeteboodskap oorgedra.	3.2.5 A request was received from the Nederduitsch Hervormde Kerk van Afrika to convey greetings on behalf of the GKSA during their *Algemene Kerkvergadering* in September 2016. The Deputies delegated Rev C Aucamp and prof J Smit to attend the meeting and Rev C Aucamp conveyed greetings.
Besluit: Punte 3.1 tot 3.2.5 kennis geneem.	**Decision: Points 3.1 to 3.2.5 noted.**
3.3 <u>*Vir besluitneming*</u>	3.3 <u>*To be decided*</u>
3.3.1 Die te benoeme Deputate gaan voort met bilaterale gesprekvoering met die NHKA.	3.3.1 The to be appointed Deputies continue with bilateral discussions with the NHKA.
Besluit: Goedgekeur.	**Decision: Approved.**
4. Bilaterale Gesprek: *Nederduits Gereformeerde Kerk*	**4. Bilateral Discussion: *Nederduits Gereformeerde Kerk***
4.1 *Opdrag (Acta 2015:149, 4.3.2)*	4.1 *Mandate (Acta 2015:149, 4.3.2)*
4.1.1 Die te benoeme Deputate gaan voort met bilaterale gesprekvoering met die NGK.	4.1.1 The to be appointed Deputies continue with bilateral discussions with the NGK.
Besluit: Kennis geneem.	**Decision: Noted.**
4.2 <u>*Vir kennisname*</u>	4.2 <u>*To be noted*</u>
4.2.1 Die bilaterale gesprek met die NGK is die afgelope termyn oorheers deur die NGK se besluite van 2015 en 2016 oor selfdegeslagverhoudings.	4.2.1 The bilateral discussion with the NGK was dominated during this term by the NGK's decisions of 2015 and 2016 on same-sex relationships.
4.2.2 Die memorandum van Ekumeniese Verhouding wat deur Sinode 2015 goedgekeur is, het die basis van hierdie gesprekke gevorm. Die memorandum maak spesifiek	4.2.2 The memorandum of Ecumenical Relations approved by Synod 2015 formed the basis for these discussions. The memorandum specifically makes provision for such discussions: "We

voorsiening vir sodanige gesprekke: "Ons onderneem om binne die raamwerk van die Gereformeerde Belydenis en Kerkregering met mekaar en ook onderling binne een kerkverband verskille wat die belydenis in gedrang kan bring, aan te spreek" (par 2(e)).	undertake to address difference with one another as well as mutually within one church denomination that may compromise the confession within the framework of die reformed confession and church polity" (par 2(e)).
4.2.3 Die Deputate het afgevaardigdes na die NGK se Algemene Sinode in Oktober 2015 afgevaardig waar insette oor spesifiek selfdegeslag-verhoudings gelewer is. 'n Groete-boodskap is ook oorgedra.	4.2.3 The Deputies delegated deputies to the NGK's General Synod in October 2015 where input was provided specifically on same-sex relationships. Greetings were also conveyed.
4.2.4 Na aanleiding van die NGK se besluit van 2015 is indringende gesprek oor selfdegeslagverhoudings op 12 Februarie 2016 gevoer waartydens die Deputate die GKSA se besluit van 2003 (Acta 2003:748, 12.4.26) gestel het. Gesprek is ook oor die hermeneutiese en Skrifbeskoulike vertrekpunte onderliggend aan die NGK se besluit van 2015 gevoer. Hierdie gesprek is voortgesit op 26 Augustus 2016.	4.2.4 Subsequent to the NGK's decision in 2015 incisive discussions were held on 12 February 2016 regarding same-sex relationships during which the Deputies stated the decision of the GKSA of 2003 (Acta 2003:748, 12.4.26). Discussions were also held regarding the hermeneutic and Scriptural points of departure underlying the decision of the NGK in 2015. This discussion continued on 26 August 2016.
4.2.5 Tydens 'n spesiale Algemene Sinode in Oktober 2016 het die NGK sy besluit van 2015 omgekeer. Ds C Aucamp en prof J Smit het hierdie Sinode namens die Deputate bygewoon en daar insette gelewer.	4.2.5 During a special General Synod in October 2016 the NGK reversed its decision of 2015. Rev C Aucamp and prof J Smit attendance this Synod on behalf of the Deputies and delivered inputs.
Besluit: Punte 4.2.1 tot 4.2.5 kennis geneem.	**Decision: Points 4.2.1 to 4.2.5 noted.**
4.3 <u>*Vir besluitneming*</u>	4.3 <u>*To be decided*</u>
4.3.1 Die te benoeme Deputate gaan voort met bilaterale gesprekvoering met die NGK.	4.3.1 The to be appointed Deputies continue with bilateral discussions with the NGK.
Besluit: Goedgekeur.	**Decision: Approved.**

D. **AANVULLENDE RAPPORT / SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT**

1. REFO 500 (Rapport 2, 1.2.8)	**1. REFO 500** (Report 2, 1.2.8)
1.1 *Vir kennisname*	1.1 *To be noted*
1.1.1 Die Deputate spreek hulle dank uit teenoor die NGK en die NHKA vir die hartlike samewerking in die organisasie van die feesvieringe rondom Refo 500.	1.1.1 The Deputies express their gratitude to the NGK and NHKA for the heartfelt co-operation in the organisation of the festivities around Refo 500.
1.1.2 Die drie kerkgemeenskappe (NGK, NHKA en GKSA) het die koste van die nasionale fees in Pretoria gedeel. Vir die doel het die Deputate die Administratiewe Buro versoek om R50 000 as die GKSA se bydrae tot die koste te bewillig. Die versoek is	1.1.2 The three church communities (NGK, NHKA, and GKSA) shared the costs of the national festival in Pretoria. For this purpose the Deputies requested the Administrative Bureau to allocate R50 000 as the GKSA's contribution to the costs. The request was granted on

toegestaan met die voorwaarde dat die bedrag in die volgende begroting van die Deputate verreken word. Die Deputate spreek hulle dank teenoor die Administratiewe Buro uit.	condition that the amount will be accounted for in the next budget of the Deputies. The Deputies express their gratitude to the Administrative Bureau.
1.1.3 Die Deputate spreek die begeerte uit dat die samewerking tussen die kerke ook op plaaslike vlak duidelik sal word, soos wat inderdaad tydens die streeksfeeste gebeur het.	1.1.3 The Deputies express the wish that the cooperation between churches will also become visible at local level, as indeed happened at the regional festivals.
Besluit: Punte 1.1.1 tot 1.1.3 kennis geneem.	**Decision: Points 1.1.1 to 1.1.3 noted.**
2. Bilaterale gesprek: *Nederduitsch Hervormde Kerk van Afrika* (Rapport 2, 3)	**2. Bilateral discussion: *Nederduitsch Hervormde Kerk van Afrika*** (Report 2, 3)
2.1 *Vir kennisname*	2.1 *To be noted*
2.1.1 Die Deputate het op 1 November 2017 bilateraal gesprek met die NHKA gevoer. Die gesprek het in goeie gesindheid plaasgevind.	2.1.1 The Deputies held bilateral discussion with the NHKA on 1 November 2017. The discussion was held in a positive attitude.
2.1.2 Die kerkgemeenskappe het ooreengekom dat 'n Kommissie aangewys word om die voortgang van die gesprek te fasiliteer. Die Kommissie sal aan die volgende sake aandag skenk: Skrifverstaan/hermeneutiek, Belydenisaangeleenthede en ander sake deur die Kommissie uitgewys.	2.1.2 The church communities agreed to appoint a Commission to facilitate the continuation of the discussion. The Commission will give attention to the following matters: Biblical Hermeneutics, matters concerning the Confession, and other matters pointed out by the Commission.
2.1.3 'n Kommissie is ook aangewys om 'n konsepdokument op te stel as ooreengekome omskrywing van bestaande ekumeniese verhoudinge tussen die kerkgemeenskappe.	2.1.3 A Commission was also appointed to draft a document as agreed description of existing ecumenical relations between the church communities.
2.1.4 Die NHKA se 2016-besluit oor selfdegeslagverhoudings is bespreek en die NHKA se afgevaardigdes het verduidelikende opmerkings gemaak. Hierdie gesprek sal in die nuwe termyn voortgesit word.	2.1.4 The NHKA's 2016 decision on same-sex relationships was discussed and the delegates of the NHKA made some explanatory remarks. This discussion will be continued during the new term.
Besluit: Punte 2.1.1 tot 2.1.4 kennis geneem.	**Decision: Points 2.1.1 to 2.1.4 noted.**