

**24.9 BESPREGINGSPUNT – AANSOEK OM HULP AAN MUKHANYO THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE (Artt 95, 255, 307)**

**24.9 POINT OF DISCUSSION – ASSISTANCE FOR HELP TO MUKHANYO THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE (Arts 95, 255, 307)**

- A. Dr BA de Vries stel die Besprekingspunt.  
Dr BA de Vries tables the Point of discussion.
- B. **Besluit:** Verwys na Finansiële Kommissie en ad hoc kommissie 2.  
**Decision:** Referred to Financial Commission and ad hoc commission 2.
- C. Ds KP Steyn rapporteer namens ad hoc kommissie 2.  
Rev KP Steyn reports on behalf of ad hoc commission 2.
- D. Dr EJ de Beer namens die Finansiële Kommissie.  
Dr EJ de Beer reports on behalf of Financial Commission.

**E. BESPREGINGSPUNT / POINT OF DISCUSSION**

<p>Mukhanyo Theological College versoek die Algemene Sinode van die GKSA-2018 om die volgende Besprekingspunt in oorweging te neem:</p> <p><b>Voorstel</b> Dat besluit word om voorsiening in die kerkverband te maak word om fondse op 'n gereelde basis aan die Mukhanyo Theological School te bewillig, bv deur middel van ramings of verpligte kollektes, ten behoeve van die instandhouding van hierdie kollege.</p> <p><b>Motivering</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hierdie kollege met sy hoofkampus in KwaMhlanga en met studiesentra in Pretoria (by die Hoërskool Staatspresident CR Swart, Waverley) en Johannesburg (die gebou van die gewese GK Johannesburg/Melville in Braamfontein wat in 2002 ontbind het), verskaf al meer as 23 jaar Gereformeerde opleiding aan voornemende predikante, kerkleiers en talle ander wat God en sy Woord wil leer ken, dien en verkondig. In die afgelope paar jaar het die getal studente aansienlik begin groei, iets waarvoor Mukhanyo en sy personeel, studente en direksie baie dankbaar is. Maar hierdie groei het heelwat addisionele uitgawes teweeg gebring.</li> <li>2. In 2017 lei Mukhanyo 72 teologiese studente op, insluitende 44 vir die geakkrediteerde BTh-graad, en 23 vir die geakkrediteerde diploma in teologie.</li> </ol>	<p>Mukhanyo Theological College request the General Synod of the GKSA 2018 to consider the following matter:</p> <p><b>Proposal</b> That the Reformed Churches of South Africa decides to provide on a regular basis funding to Mukhanyo Theological College, for example through “ramings” from churches, as decided on by the Synod, or obligatory collections, for the maintenance of this college.</p> <p><b>Motivation</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The College with its main campus KwaMhlanga and with study centres in Pretoria (at the High School State President CR Swart in Waverley) and Johannesburg (at the facilities of the late GK Johannesburg/Melville in Braamfontein which was closed in 2002), provides for over 23 years Reformed training to prospective ministers, church leaders and numerous others who want to get to know God and His Word, want to serve and preach Him. In the past few years the number of student have increased significantly, something for which Mukhanyo and its staff, staff and board are very thankful. But this growth resulted in significant additional expenses.</li> <li>2. The number of students studying at Mukhanyo in 2017 are 72 theological students, including 44 for the accredited BTh-degree and 23 for the accredited</li> </ol>
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<p>Die meeste van hierdie studente moet geheel of grotendeels met behulp van eksterne fondse vanuit donasies aan Mukhanyho of deur ander vorms van finansiële hulp gesteun word om te kan studeer. Hierdie steun voorsien tans slegs in tussen 50% en 80% van die studente se behoeftes.</p> <p>3. Bo en behalwe bogenoemde kwalifikasies en dienste bedien Mukhanyo ook 48 afstandstudiegroepe met sowat 500 studente landswyd en ook in ander lande in Suider-Afrika, hoofsaaklik met behulp van die geakkrediteerde Diploma Teologie. Hierdie diens word teen 'n baie lae koste aan hierdie studiegroepe voorsien. In die afgelope jaar is daar 'n duidelike toename in die aanvraag na hierdie kursusse, wat deurlopend addisionele uitgawes meebring. Indien hierdie diploma voltooi word, kwalifiseer studente wat nie matriekvrystelling het nie, om vir die graad BTh/BDiv in te skryf, bv deur middel van <i>Docenda</i>. 'n Aantal van <i>Docenda</i> se huidige studente het eers by Mukhanyo studeer.</p> <p>4. Saam met Mukhanyo se NWU-onderwysbeen waar Gereformeerde begeleiding aan onderwysers en voornemende onderwysers gegee word (NWU se BEd en verskeie NWU-onderwysdiplomas), beloop die totale getal studente in 2017 om en by 740.</p> <p>5. Mukhanyo het in 2016 met 'n langtermynprojek begin om al sy kwalifikasies te vernuwe, uit te brei en op te gradeer, 'n proses wat nie net jare gaan neem nie, maar wat 'n deurlopende proses moet wees om aan die vereistes van owerheidsinstellings soos die Raad vir Hoër Onderwys (CHE), die SA Kwalifiseringsgesag (SAQA) en die Departement vir Hoër Onderwys en Opleiding te voldoen. Dit verg heelwat addisionele uitgawes, kundigheid en inspanning.</p> <p>6. In al die jare van Mukhanyho se bestaan is nooit enige vorm van subsidie van owerheidsweë ontvang nie en moet Mukhanyo steeds staat-maak op binne-landse en internasionale donasies, hulp van 'n aantal Gereformeerde Kerke, individue, asook die hulp van vrywiligers. As gevolg van Mukhanyo se groei, sal die bronne nie genoeg wees nie, veral nie as dit met huidige behoeftes en ook met</p>	<p>Diploma in Theology. Most of these students have to be supported financially largely through external funding through donations or other forms of financial help. These forms of support provides at present between 50-80% of the needs of these students.</p> <p>3. Over and above the above qualifications and services, Mukhanyo also serves 48 distance study groups countrywide with some 500 students (and also in some other countries in Southern Africa), mainly through the accredited Diploma in Theology. This diploma is provided at a very low fee to the study groups. In the past year there has been a noticeable increase in the demand for these programmes, which implies additional expenses. If this diploma is completed successfully, students which do not have matriculation exception to study for a degree, qualify for the BTh/BDiv degree, for example through <i>Docenda</i> (a number of <i>Docenda</i>'s present students first studied at Mukhanyo).</p> <p>4. Together with Mukhanyo's NWU teacher training division which is facilitated with Reformed guidance to teachers and prospective teachers (NWU's BEd and a number of NWU teacher diplomas), the total number of students amounted to approximately 740 in 2017.</p> <p>5. In 2016 Mukhanyo started with a long term project to revamp/renew all its qualifications, to upgrade and extend them. This is a process which will not only take years, but will have to be a continuous process to comply with the requirements of government bodies such as the Council for Higher Education, the SA Qualifications Authority and the Department of Higher Education and Training. This implies significant additional expenses, energy and knowledge.</p> <p>6. In all the years of Mukhanyo's existence no subsidies or any other forms of assistance were ever received from governmental authorities. Through all the years Mukhanyo had to subsist on domestic and international donations, assistance from a few Reformed Churches, individuals and volunteers. However, as a result of Mukhanyo's growth, all these forms of income will not</p>
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<p>die potensiaal vir verdere groei vergelyk word.</p> <p>7. Daarby is daar 'n dringende behoefte aan herstelwerk en onderhoud wat by Mukhanyo se hoofkampus in Kwa-Mhlanga agter geraak het. Ook die studie-sentra/kampusse in Johannesburg vereis onderhoud.</p> <p>8. In die afgelope paar jaar het Mukhanyo se bedryfsuitgawes heelwat toegeneem:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2014: R5,5 miljoen</li> <li>• 2015: R6,25 miljoen</li> <li>• 2016: R6,85 miljoen</li> <li>• 2017: R8,4 miljoen (beraam)</li> </ul> <p>(Hierdie uitgawes neem nie in aanmerking dat vergoedings van verskeie dosente deur hul onderskeie instansies gedra word, en ook nie sekere kapitaaluitgawes vir spesifieke projekte gefinansier is nie.) Hoewel inkomste tot en met 2016 met hierdie stygende uitgawes tred gehou het, sal dit vanaf 2017 baie moeilik die geval wees (jaarstate en begroting is beskikbaar).</p> <p>9. Byna die helfte van Mukhanyo se inkomste kom uit donasies vanuit Noord-Amerika en Wes-Europa. Behalwe dat Mukhanyo baie dankbaar is daarvoor, is dit nie 'n volhoubare en gesonde langtermynsituasie nie en moet Mukhanyo poog om toenemend vanuit Afrika-bronne en die kerke wat hy direk en indirek dien, gefinansier te word. Daarby moet daarmee rekening gehou word dat skenkings vanuit Nederland in 2018 aansienlik minder sal word.</p> <p>10. Mukhanyo se Gereformeerde bydrae om die steeds voortdurende groot tekort aan opgeleide kerkleiers en predikante in veral die GKSA, maar ook in ander kerke aan te spreek, kan as aansienlik beskou word, maar kan verder uitgebrei word indien Mukhanyo in staat gestel word om sy kapasiteit verder uit te bou. Dit is baie belangrik in die lig van die ernstige tekort aan predikante en kerkleiers in die GKSA.</p> <p>11. Ook as sendingsorganisasie, veral wat betref die landswye studiegroepe, is Mukhanyo se werk omvattend, hoewel</p>	<p>be sufficient anymore, especially if one takes into consideration the present needs and the potential for further growth.</p> <p>7. In addition, there is an urgent need for repair and maintenance work at the KwaMhlanga campus as well as at the study centres/campuses in Pretoria and Johannesburg.</p> <p>8. In the past few years Mukhanyo's operational expenses increased as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2014: R5,5 million</li> <li>• 2015: R6,25 million</li> <li>• 2016: R6,85 million</li> <li>• 2017: R8,4 million (estimated)</li> </ul> <p>(These expenses represent the entire budget but do not include the remuneration of a number of lecturers who are supported by their respective institutions, and also exclude capital expenses covered by donations for special projects.) Although income kept track with the increasing expenses up until 2016, it has become clear that this is going to be very difficult as from 2017 (the annual financial statements and budget are available).</p> <p>9. Nearly half of Mukhanyo's income comes from donations from North America and Western Europe. Obviously, Mukhanyo is very thankful for all this help, but this is not sustainable and not a healthy long-term situation and Mukhanyo must increasingly attempt to be financed from African sources and churches which it serves, directly or indirectly. In addition, cognisance has to be taken that donations from the Netherlands are expected to decrease significantly as from 2018.</p> <p>10. The significance must be recognised of Mukhanyo's Reformed contribution and potential contribution to help address the continuous extensive shortage of church leaders and ministers in especially the GKSA. But this can be further extended through increasing its capacity. This could be acknowledged as very important in the light of the serious shortage of ministers and church leaders in the GKSA.</p> <p>11. Also as a missionary organisation, especially in the light of its study groups countrywide and beyond, Mukhanyo's</p>
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<p>moeilik kwantifiseerbaar, soos wat met alle sendingsaksies die geval is. Mukhanyo hoop om in staat te wees om hierdie afdeling van sy bedrywighede in die volgende paar jaar aansienlik te kan uitbou.</p> <p>12. Dit is Mukhanyo se oortuiging dat die potensiaal om die Evangelie volgens die Gereformeerde Belydenis in Suider-Afrika uit te dra, enorm is. Dit is in die afgelope paar jaar deur groei in studentetalle onderstreep. Maar veel meer kan nog gedoen word, ook deur Mukhanyo indien die benodigde fondse gevind kan word.</p> <p>Mukhanyo bid dat die Here ons God aan u Sinode wysheid en insig sal gee in u besluitnemingsproses.</p>	<p>work is significant although difficult to quantify, as is the case with all missionary work. Mukhanyo hopes to be able to extend this part of its activities significantly in the next few years.</p> <p>12. Mukhanyo is convinced that the potential to spread the Gospel according to the Reformed Confession in Southern Africa is enormous. This is underlined by its own growth in student numbers. But much more can be done, also through Mukhanyo if its capacity is increased.</p> <p>We at Mukhanyo pray that God will give the Synod wisdom and insight if all the considerations and decision-making.</p>
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#### F. RAPPORT VAN AD HOC KOMMISSIE / REPORT OF AD HOC COMMISSION

<p><b>1. Opdrag</b></p> <p>1.1 Die Kommissie is getaak om die Sinode te adviseer oor aansoek aan hulp/finansiële hulp aan Mukhanyo Teologiese Skool.</p> <p><b>Besluit: Kennis geneem.</b></p> <p><b>2. Sake waarvan die Sinode neem kennis</b></p> <p>2.1 Die Kommissie hoor die verteenwoordigers van Mukhanyo Theological College en ander belanghebbendes aan rakende hulle groeiende finansiële nood en bande met die GKSA.</p> <p>2.2 Die Kommissie kan, gesiene die mandaat van die Kommissie, slegs oordeel oor die meriete van die Besprekingspunt en kan dus nie enige oordeel of aanbevelings maak rakende die finansiële aspekte van die aansoek nie. Vir laasgenoemde aspek van die aansoek, moet die aansoek na die Finansiële Kommissie verwys word indien die Sinode die versoek van die Besprekingspunt toestaan.</p> <p>2.3 Van die sterk Gereformeerde bande in die ontstaansgeskiedenis van Mukhanyo Theological College, van die rol en invloed wat Mukhanyo Theological College speel in die samelewing.</p> <p>2.4 Van die feit dat Mukhanyo Theological College alles in hulle vermoë doen om uitgawes te beperk terwyl hulle nie te afhanklik wil wees van internasionale</p>	<p><b>1. Assignment</b></p> <p>1.1 Commission tasked with advising the Synod on the request of assistance/ financial aid to Mukhanyo Theological College.</p> <p><b>Decision: Noted.</b></p> <p><b>2. Matters that the Synod take note of</b></p> <p>2.1 The Commission met with the representatives of Mukhanyo Theological College as well as other interested parties regarding the growing financial need and ties with the GKSA.</p> <p>2.2 The Commission can, seen in the mandate of the Commission, only judge the merit of the Point of discussion and can thus not judge on, or make any recommendations as far as the financial aspects of the request is concerned. The Synod is requested to refer the financial implications to the Finance Commission in the case of the motion being carried.</p> <p>2.3 The strong Reformed ties in the founding of Mukhanyo Theological College, and the role and influence that Mukhanyo Theological College plays in the society.</p> <p>2.4 Of the fact that Mukhanyo Theological College does everything in their power to curb expenditures while they do not want to be too dependant on</p>
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<p>skenkings nie – laasgenoemde ‘n totaal van 40% van hulle inkomste vir 2018.</p> <p>2.5 Dat bogenoemde beleid berus op die Skrifbeginsel dat alle kerke gelyk voor die Here staan. ‘n Beleid wat die oorgrote meerderheid van die inkomste van Mukhanyo Theological College in die buiteland plaas, kan die indruk skep dat die buitelandse kerke meer belangrik is en ‘n afhanklikheid van die buitelandse kerke kweek.</p> <p>2.6 Dat Mukhanyo Theological College nie alleen steun op die finansiële hulp van sommige gemeentes binne die GKSA nie, maar dat hulle ook by ander kerkverbande met Gereformeerde Belydenis aansoek doen om steun.</p> <p>2.7 Dat staatsubsidie nie vir Mukhanyo Theological College ‘n opsie is nie weens die inherente botsing tussen die grondwet van Mukhanyo Theological College en sekere beleide van die Suid-Afrikaanse regering.</p> <p>2.8 Dat Mukhanyo Theological College egter nie vra vir ‘n eenmalige skenking nie, maar vir “...ramings of verpligte kollektes”.</p> <p>2.9 Van die druk op plaaslike gemeentes om die bestaande ramings en verpligte kollektes na te kom.</p> <p>2.10 Ramings en verpligte kollektes geormerk word vir die werksaamhede wat vanuit Sinodebesluite van die GKSA gebore is.</p> <p>2.11 Dat die aansoek van Mukhanyo Theological College, by monde van die verteenwoordigers van Mukhanyo Theological College aan die Kommissie meegedeel, nie <i>per se</i> fokus op die finansiële steun nie, maar op die gedeelde roeping wat Mukhanyo Theological College met die GKSA het om die evangelie en die Gereformeerde leer uit te dra in Suidelike Afrika.</p> <p><b>Besluit: Punte 2.1 tot 2.11 kennis geneem.</b></p> <p><b>3. Sake waaroor die Sinode besluit</b></p> <p>3.1 In die lig van pt 2 en in besonder pt 2.11, beveel die Kommissie aan dat die aansoek nie goedgekeur word nie.</p> <p><b>Besluit: Goedgekeur: <u>Motivering:</u> Mukhanyo het nie genoeg inligting ver-</b></p>	<p>international donations – which makes up a total of 40% of their income for 2018.</p> <p>2.5 That the mentioned policy rests upon the principle in Scripture that all churches are equal before the Lord. A policy which places most of the income of Mukhanyo Theological College abroad, could create the impression that churches abroad is more important and will create a dependence on those churches abroad.</p> <p>2.6 That Mukhanyo Theological College not only call on support from some congregations in the GKSA, but also from other denominations with a Reformed Confession.</p> <p>2.7 That subsidy from the state is not an option for Mukhanyo Theological College because of the inherent clash between parts of the constitution of Mukhanyo Theological College and certain policies of the South African government.</p> <p>2.8 That Mukhanyo Theological College do not ask for a once-off donation, but for “ramings” or compulsory collections.</p> <p>2.9 The pressure on local congregations to execute current “ramings” and compulsory collections.</p> <p>2.10 “Ramings” and compulsory collections is earmarked for applications which is born from decisions of Synod of the GKSA.</p> <p>2.11 That the request form Mukhanyo Theological College, by the mouths of the representatives of Mukhanyo Theological College, as was shared with the Commission, does not <i>per se</i> focus on the financial aid, but on the shared calling that Mukhanyo Theological College have with the GKSA to carry the Gospel and Reformed Confessions into Southern Africa.</p> <p><b>Decision: Points 2.1 to 2.11 noted.</b></p> <p><b>3. Matters that the Synod decide on</b></p> <p>3.1 In the light of pt 2, and especially pt 2.11, the Commission proposes that the request is not approved.</p> <p><b>Decision: Approved. Motivation: Mukhanyo did not provide enough infor-</b></p>
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skaf om tot 'n ingeligte besluit te kom nie. Verder is die voortgaande gesprek tussen die Kuratore nie verreken in die aansoek nie.

mation to come to an informed decision. The continued discussion between the Curators and Mukhanyo was not reckoned in the request.

**G. RAPPORT VAN DIE FINANSIËLE KOMMISSIE / REPORT OF THE FINANCIAL COMMISSION**

**1. Sake waarvan die Sinode kennis neem**

Die Sinode het nie gevolg gegee aan hierdie Besprekingspunt nie en daarom is daar niks wat die Finansiële Kommissie verder hieroor hoef te doen nie.

**Besluit: Kennis geneem.**

**1. Matters that the Synod take note of**

The Synod did not give effect to this Point of discussion, and therefore nothing is to be done from the side of the Financial Commission.

**Decision: Noted.**