

## 23.5 REPORT DEPUTIES BROADCASTING: RADIO AND TV (Artt 117, 145)

- A. Rev HJP de Beer delivers the Report.
- B. **Decision:** The Report is referred to Commission Publications and Media.
- C. Rev JP Fleischmann reports on behalf of Commission Publications and Media.

### D. REPORT

#### 1. Commission

To organise the broadcasting of religious programmes, radio as well as TV, to include broadcasting of Reformed worship services and church news as well as running religious programmes, and to do so in collaboration with Radio Pretoria, SABC and CNW as well as other licensed broadcasters that agreements of co-operation had been reached with (Acta 2003:690).

**Decision: Noted.**

#### 2. Matters that Synod can take cognisance of

##### 2.1 *Fulfilment of commission*

Broadcasting of worship services, church news and participation in religious programmes has taken place on a regular basis since the previous Synod. Such broadcasting was done via Radio Pretoria, RADIOKANSEL (CNW) and RSG (SABC). Broadcasting via RSG is no longer managed by RADIOKANSEL, but by an independent media house, known as Tripel M Produksies, under the supervision of dr Flip Loots.

##### 2.2 *Opportunities for broadcasting*

###### 2.2.1 RSG

In response to enquiries about GKSA's turns for preaching and other religious programmes via RSG (*Radio Sonder Grense*), the following information was supplied by Tripel M Produksies in its capacity as authorised body that manages broadcasting of RSG's religious programmes:

- 2.2.1.1 Allocation of a formal percentage of turns to the different denominations has been done away with.
- 2.2.1.2 The focus has shifted to criteria such as ability to cope with radio presentation, ability to convey an actual message from the Word to the listeners.
- 2.2.1.3 The country's variety of cultural groups should also be accommodated by RSG as far as religious broadcasting is concerned.
- 2.2.1.4 Female ministers must also feature.
- 2.2.1.5 To be "ordained minister" is no longer a prerequisite for participation during short weekly series or studio services.
- 2.2.1.6 The size of all the churches is also taken into account.

Distribution of opportunities among churches is done only after all of the above criteria had been considered. According to Tripel M Produksies a fair allocation of available turns is granted the GKSA.

News pertaining to callings will no longer be broadcast on Sundays during RSG's programme *Kollig op die Kerk*. Deputies of GKSA addressed an official enquiry in this regard accompanied by the necessary explanation of needs estimation. However, RSG regarded its original decision to do away with news on callings as final and explained that RSG viewed such broadcasting as having limited newsworthiness.

###### 2.2.2 Radio Pretoria

The present situation with Radio Pretoria (religious committee) is an equal distribution of opportunities among the churches GKSA, DRC, NHK and APK for the purpose of religious broadcasting via this channel. Doing so entails that approximately 12 or even 13 weeks per year can be allocated to the GKSA by Radio Pretoria. A week's broadcasting includes a morning Worship Service on Sunday and during the

weekdays the daily opening and closing presentations as well as opportunities for family devotions and morning contemplations.

Evening Worship Services are studio-bound and are being allocated to the different churches in turn on a monthly basis. This would mean that GKSA will have 4-5 consecutive Sundays every fourth month for leading the evening worship services.

The standard allocation of broadcasting opportunities is unfortunately adversely influenced by travelling expenses attached to production recordings, forcing Radio Pretoria to work mainly within a 150km range from its basis. If a church wishes to have an opportunity for broadcasting, but falls outside the parameter of 150km, a request can still be filed with the deputies. If Radio Pretoria is willing to grant the opportunity, it would mean that travelling expenses for the distance beyond 150km would be payable to Radio Pretoria by the church at a fixed tariff.

Broadcasting of church news, as received from the Admin Bureau, will take place via this channel on Sunday mornings.

Rev HJP de Beer and Rev P van Wyk acted as representatives of GKSA with regard to Radio and TV broadcasting. They have attended the meetings held by Radio Pretoria's religious committee since beginning 2006 and have made the relevant church-related contributions.

### 2.2.3 SABC TV

As far as TV is concerned the deputies received no request to arrange for broadcasting from within the Reformed Churches.

### 2.3 *Radiokansel (Radio Pulpit)*

Rev HJP de Beer corresponded with the Broadcasting Authorities by means of a letter in support of licensing to be issued for the extension of RADIOKANSEL's area of broadcast.

**Decision: Points 2.1 to 2.3 noted.**

## 3. Matters for Synodal decision

The Deputies recommend the following:

- 3.1 To appoint Deputies again with the assignment to organise the broadcasting of sermons, church news and participation in religious programmes by the GKSA on Radio and TV in cooperation with Radio Pretoria, as well as the SABC (Tripel M Productions) and Radio Pulpit and other licenced broadcasters with whom official cooperation agreements exist. They should also enquire from rev E Kayayan whether the Deputies for the French Radio Ministry can be of assistance.
- 3.2 The re-appointment of Rev HJP de Beer as GKSA representative on the sub-committee of the Council of RADIOKANSEL, known as the *Teologiese Advieskomitee (TAK) [Theological Advisory Committee]* to serve as member on a panel consisting of 12 denominations and organisations.
- 3.3 That the names of co-workers (Reformed denomination) who are involved in broadcasting matters be forwarded to the relevant organisations and be co-ordinated by the deputies.
- 3.4 That individuals (Reformed denomination) who wish to assist in matters of broadcasting opportunities supply the deputies with their names, that will in turn, if possible, make the necessary arrangements with the organisations involved.

**Decision: Approved as amended.**

- 3.5 The Synod requests Classes to contact local radio stations in order to organise opportunity for Word proclamation (sermons and devotions).
- 3.6 The details of such contact should be communicated to the Deputies Radio and TV broadcasts for coordination.

**Decision: Approved.**