

10. Programming

10.1 REPORT OF THE DEPUTIES GENERAL SYNOD PROGRAMMING (Art 8)

- A. Dr D Lartz tables the Report.
- B. The Report will be concluded during the Synod session.

C. REPORT

1. Matters that the Synod takes note of

1.1 Assignment

- 1.1.1 Acta 1979:301, art 76, 3.1.5
- 1.1.2 Acta 1991:491–494
- 1.1.3 Acta 1994:726–728
- 1.1.4 Acta 2000:31
- 1.1.5 Acta 2009:848, art 2.16.2
- 1.1.6 Acta 2012:13, 3.2

Decision: Points 1.1.1 to 1.1.6 noted.

1.2 Modus operandi

- 1.2.1 The Deputies consulted resolutions of previous Synods (see 1.4.1)
- 1.2.2 The Deputies appointed by the General Synod 2012 (Acta 2009:848) held a meeting on 4 and 5 December 2014 to do preliminary programming of the Agenda for the General Synod 2015. Every Regional Synod was invited to send a delegate.
- 1.2.3 The final Report was compiled on 9 December 2014.

Decision: Points 1.2.1 to 1.2.3 noted.

1.3 Logistical

- 1.3.1 140 documents have been sent for the Agenda, consisting of 117 Reports, 8 Petitions of Protest and 13 Points of Description.
- 1.3.2 The Synod will have 70 hours available for its meeting.
- 1.3.3 The dormitory, Dennepark, must be evacuated by Thursday, 15 January 2015, by 08:00.
- 1.3.4 The costs of this Synod is estimated to an amount of ±R320.00 per delegate per day (cost of administration and traveling excluded).
- 1.3.5 The Synod aims to close on Wednesday, 14 January 2015, at 20:00.

Decision: Points 1.3.1 to 1.3.5 noted.

1.4 Planning

- 1.4.1 Each meeting shall determine its own approach. Synod 2012 primarily followed the approach of finalizing matters. Where it was necessary, some matters were referred to a Commission.
- 1.4.2 The Agenda was electronically distributed to all churches in October 2014. By then it was already necessary that churches supplied names of elders available for the General Synod to the Regional Synods. Therefore the accompanying letter requested that the Agenda should be made available to the elders.
- 1.4.3 In the third week of December the Supplementary Agenda was distributed electronically to all delegates whose e-mail addresses were available. This approach has made available more time for preparation.

Decision: Points 1.4.1 to 1.4.3 noted.

1.5 Speaking voice and turn to speak

- 1.5.1 According to the credentials speaking voice belongs to delegates and according to CO, art 18, to professors as advisors.
- 1.5.2 Non delegates who are involved in Reports, Points of Description and Petitions of Protest, will have voice to speak regarding elucidation.
- 1.5.3 Other non delegates will not have speaking voice.
Motivation: The Synod is an assembly of Regional Synods (CO, art 50), to which delegates are sent by the Regional Synods.
- 1.5.4 Turns to speak must be used economically.
Motivation: The Synod is a church meeting (CO, art 30) and not a club for debate.

Decision: Points 1.5.1 to 1.5.4 noted.

1.6 Appointment of Commissions

The following criteria is used:

- 1.6.1 Giftedness
- 1.6.2 Choice of delegates
- 1.6.3 Recommendations by Regional Synods
- 1.6.4 Petitions of Protest by which the Regional Synod may be a stake holder, delegates of those Regional synods will not be part of a Commission dealing with that respective issue.

Decision: Points 1.6.1 to 1.6.4 noted.

1.7 Liasion with the media

- 1.7.1 The Deputies gave attention to the various ways in which decisions can be communicated to the media and the church members.

Decision: Point 1.7.1 noted.

2. Matters that the Synod decide on

The Deputies recommend the following

2.1 *Rooms for Commissions*

The rooms where Commissions can meet will have the names of the Commissions on the doors. Delegates are requested not to change it.

Decision: Approved.

2.2 *Time table*

- 2.2.1 The time table is to change from the time table recommended by the calling church council to be compatible with the time table for meals given by NWU:

07:00 – 08:00 (breakfast)

08:00 – 10:30

10:30 – 10:45 (tea time)

10:45 – 12:15

12:15 – 14:00 (lunch)

14:00 – 16:00

16:00 – 16:15 (tea time)

16:15 – 17:15

17:15 – 18:30 (supper)

18:30 – 21:00

- 2.2.2 For Saturday we recommend that the time of the meeting be 12:15.

- 2.2.3 On Monday 12-01-2015 the Synod will commence at 09:00.

Decision: Points 2.2.1 to 2.2.3 approved.

2.3 *Modus Operandi*

- 2.3.1 Every admissible matter is tabled, dealt with and a resolution taken (CO, art 30).
- 2.3.2 Petitions of Protest are referred to Commissions for advice.

- 2.3.3 When delivering a Report or putting forward a Point of Description or Petition of Protest, the elucidator does not read the document or present a summary (the delegates have already read it). When really necessary a point can be explained.
- 2.3.4 When the Synod experience difficulties in formulating a resolution, it is then referred to a Commission (Acta 1976, art 12)
- 2.3.5 Commissions that are to be of service for this Synod: Commission of Order, Financial, Appointment of deputies and Petition of Protest Commission. The other commissions that are listed below are available when the Synod may possibly deem it necessary.

Decision: Points 2.3.1 to 2.3.5 approved.

2.4 *Speaking voice and turn to speak*

- 2.4.1 With the matter of speaking voice and turn to speak the guidelines in 1.5 is to be followed.
- 2.4.2 Right to speak for official delegates of churches with whom the GKSA has ecumenical ties.

Decision: Points 2.4.1 and 2.4.2 approved.

2.5 *Synod "in camera"*

When the Synod has to go "in camera" the delegates will be in Synod as well as the following:

- (1) Advisors
- (2) Emeritus ministers and professors
- (3) Ministers and elders in ministry although not delegated
- (4) The typist
- (5) Sextons
- (6) Translators

Decision: Approved.

2.6 *Advisors*

The professors of the TSP, in line with CO, art 18, will give advice to the Commissions as per request.

Decision: Approved.

2.7 *Organizational rules regarding worship in the building of GK Potchefstroom-Die Bult*

The following are recommended:

- 2.7.1 the Chair of the Synod will direct words of appreciation to prof JM Vorster, for leading in worship.
- 2.7.2 Greetings from other churches (domestic) are conveyed. The Vice-Chairperson will introduce the relevant speakers and will speak a word of appreciation after the completion of the greetings.

Decision: Points 2.7.1 and 2.7.2 approved.

2.8 *Other rulings*

- 2.8.1 Each day will be opened by the reading of Scripture, prayer and a Psalm/Scriptural Hymn.
- 2.8.2 Messages of greetings from churches abroad will be conveyed when the relating reports are being dealt with.
- 2.8.3 The Rector of NWU (Potchefstroom campus), prof H van Schalkwyk, will convey his message on 12 January 2015, at 19:00.
- 2.8.4 The birthday of the Potchefstroom Campus of the NWU and the Theological Seminary will be presented by the Rector on 12 January 2015, at 19:00 at Christa Galli.
- 2.8.5 Constituting of the Curators will take place on 12 January at 12:30.
- 2.8.6 Delegates who are going to take up lunch and supper on Saturday as well as all three meals on Sunday, are requested to indicate it before Tuesday 17:00. The Commission for Order will handle this matter.
- 2.8.7 Leading in song: Revs C Aucamp and MA Modise.

Decision: Points 2.8.1 to 2.8.7 approved.

2.9 *Preparation and publications of the Actas*

2.9.1 The Scribes of the Synod, the Chairperson and Scribe of the Commission for Order are to be appointed as the Deputies to compile and publish the Actas.

Decision: Approved.

2.10 *Voting and counting of votes*

2.10.1 The Moderamen will give guidance when to use ballot papers for voting or by raising the hand.

2.10.2 The Commission of Order will be responsible for the counting of votes.

2.10.3 The yellow A-5 cartons are to be raised when voting by hand.

Decision: Points 2.10.1 to 2.10.3 approved.

2.11 *Liasion with the media*

2.11.1 Liaison with the media will be left to the Commission for Communication.

2.11.2 The Commission for Communication will communicate information to the churches daily, using the most effective methods.

Decision: Points 2.11.1 and 2.11.2 approved.

2.12 *Appointment of Deputies*

2.12.1 The Commission's assignment and report to be in accordance with the resolution of Synod:

2.12.1.1 the recommendations of names as proposed by churches and which are available at the Executive Manager of the Administrative Bureau be taken into consideration.

2.12.1.2 No retired ministers or professors are to be appointed, and preferably also no professors (Acta 1979:170, 8.4).

2.12.1.3 The rules in determining the Management of the Administrative Bureau, the Trustees and other Deputy groups is to be found in Acta 2003 or decided by the Synod.

2.12.2 All delegates may give their inputs, preferably in writing, to the Commission.

2.12.3 The final Report will be tabled on the last day of the Synod's meeting, without any discussions.

Decision: Points 2.12.1 to 2.12.3 approved.

2.13 *Commissions of Synod*

2.13.1 The Commissions strictly keep to the meetings rooms for the sake of any person who wishes to report to the Commissions.

2.13.2 The approved compilation of Commissions are final.

2.13.3 The Commissions allow sufficient time for reporters, elucidators and others delegates who wish to provide input, to state their cases.

2.13.4 In all Commission the secundus will replace the primus, if the the primus is not present.

2.13.5 Commissions should start adressing their assignment as soon as possible. This will result in speedy feedback, to have ample time for discussion en descision.

2.13.6 Commissions are free to devide into sub-commissions.

2.13.7 Commission Reports that are ready must be sent to the Chairperson or Scribe of the Commission of Order who will arrange for the processing of the Report.

The following Commissions are recommended:

1. **Commission of Order**

Assignment: Counting of votes, daily program, minutes, logistics

Room: P2 Administrative Bureau

Chair: Rev CA Jansen (O)

Scribe: Rev GC Coetzee (O) (RV)

Vice scribe: Rev CJ Nagel (jr) (B)

Members: Rev FJ Potgieter (RV), elder MW Britts (RV), elder FJWJ Slabbert (NW), rev PR Gouws (B)

2. Commission Finance

Assignment: Financial reports and financial implication of reports
Room: P9 Administrative Bureau
Chair: Rev W Vogel (NW)
Scribe: Rev PJ Nel (P)
Vice scribe: Rev J van Schaik (RV)
Members: Revs N Boy (B), J van der Schyff (OVS), EP Nel (RV), MP Fourie (S), elders JM Kruger (B), JJ Howell (RV), HAJ Oosthuizen (NW), P Aucamp (S), BD Bakker (O), JP van Jaarsveld (OVS), BG Kukkuk (P)

3. Commission Appointment of Deputies

Assignment: Appoint Deputies as decided by the Synod
Room: P8 Administrative Bureau
Chair: Rev EJ Tiemensma (O)
Scribe: Rev BR Kingma (S)
Vice scribe: Rev CJ Van Vuuren (B)
Members: Revs CB Robinson (NW), HPM van Rhyn (P), dr JA Erasmus (OVS), rev PM Modise (RV), elders JTS van der Merwe (B), BJ Vorster (O), GJ Coetzee (OVS), PWH Aucamp (NW), LJ van Vuuren (RV), JJ Boersema (P)

4. Commission Petition of Protest 1 – Doctrinal

Assignment: 21.2A; 21.3A; 21.4A
Room: P10 Administrative Bureau
Chair: Dr DJ de Kock (B)
Skriba: Rev HC van Rooy (RV)
Vice scribe: Rev PW Kurpershoek (O)
Members: Rev AL Pelser (OVS), elders J Hoogendyk (RV), C van der Linde (P), DL de Beer (O), K Bain (S)

5. Commission Petition of Protest 2 – Liturgical

Assignment: 22.2A; 22.3A; 22.8AA
Room: A2 (left) Administrative Bureau
Chair: Rev JP van der Walt (S)
Scribe: Rev HB Hattingh (B)
Vice scribe: Rev OJ Struwig (OVS)
Members: Rev JG Noeth (P), elders APJ Reedijk (O), PJ Jacobs (B), J Verhoef (NW), A Pienaar (RV)

6. Commission Bible/Bible Media

Assignment: 14.1A; 14.2A; 14.3A
Room: A2 (right) Administrative Bureau
Chair: Dr De W Saaiman (RV)
Scribe: Rev AP Kruger (OVS)
Vice scribe: Rev C Jooste (P)
Members: Rev HW Schutte (RV), elders BA Potgieter (RV), A Venter (P), W Steinberg (S)

7. Commission Diaconal Matters

Assignment: 15.1A-15.6AA
Room: A2 (right) Administrative Bureau
Chair: Dr WC Vergeer (RV)
Scribe: Dr J Lion-Cachet (NW)

Vice scribe: Rev SJMS Smit (O)
Members: Rev LP van Jaarsveld (O), elders W Buys (O), H van Tonder (B), E Ngakane (RV)

8. Commission Ecumenicity

Assignment: 16.1A-16.22A
Room: Tea room TSP
Chair: Rev SA Cilliers (B)
Scribe: Rev D van't Zand (RV)
Vice scribe: Rev CJ van Heyningen (S)
Members: Rev TF Dreyer (RV), dr J Fatuse (S), elders J Malunga (NW) (sec), A Niehof (RV)

9. Commission EVT

Assignment: 17.1AA-17.5AA
Room: TSP
Chair: Rev CJH Breed (O)
Scribe: Dr EJ de Beer (B)
Vice scribe: Rev AB van der Walt (NW)
Members: Revs WJ Botha (OVS), GS Kruger (P), JJ de Kock (S), HJ Stoltz (RV), elders G Kotzee (RV), SO Oostruis (NW), JA Hoogenboezem (B), AT Dreyer (O), SA Pama (S), D Putter (P), JA Kruger (OVS)

10. Commission Historical Matters

Assignment: 18.1A-18.4AA
Room: Tea room TSP
Chair: Rev PJJ van Nieuwenhuizen (B)
Scribe: Rev MJ Erasmus (O)
Vice scribe: Rev SPJ Vermaak (OVS/KZN)
Members: Elders WH Taljaard (OVS/KZN), HJ Buskes (P), MA Pelesa (S)

11. Commission Youth and Education

Assignment: 19.1A-19.15A
Room: G03 TSP
Chair: Rev G Opperman (B)
Scribe: Rev AH Stavast OVS/KZN)
Vice scribe: Rev E Naudé (S)
Members: Rev MM Molokwane (O), elders Noppe (O), J Lowings (OVS/KZN)

12. Commission Doctrinal

Assignment: 21.1A; 21.6AA; 21.6AA
Room: 110 TSP
Chair: Dr GJ Meijer (P)
Scribe: Rev P Venter (NW)
Vice scribe: Rev ASA De Bruyn (RV)
Members: Rev JJ Cloete (S), elders P de Klerk (RV), MPA de Beer (B), I Besa (NW), PM Tsotetsi (OVS)

13. Commission Liturgical

Assignment: 22.1A; 22.1AA; 22.4AA-22.7AA
Room: Senate hall TSP
Chair: Rev HS Coetzee (NW)
Scribe: Dr H Goede (RV)
Vice scribe: Rev JA Berg (B)

Members: Rev NJ van der Walt (B), dr ALA Buys (P), elders D du Plessis (RV), DCB Smit (OVS), J Schutte (NW), PJ Riekert (O), P Oelofse (P)

14. Commission Communication

Assignment: Communication of information
Room: P2 Administrative Bureau
Chair: Rev C Aucamp (P)
Scribe: Dr HF van Wyk (NW)
Vice scribe: Rev HL Stavast (P)
Members: Vice chair Moderamen, elder P Joubert (RV)

15. Commission Theological School

Assignment: 24.1A-24.10AA
Room: 111 TSP
Chair: Dr TC de Klerk (NW)
Scribe: Rev TJ van Vuuren (OVS)
Vice scribe: Rev BC Smit (P)
Members: Revs NN Ligege (B), PJ van der Walt (O), CCA Vrey (S), JA Schutte (RV), elders J Groothof (B), B van Wetten (O), JE Kotze (OVS), E Rabele (P), P Ligthelm (RV), ME Montsho (NW), SM Klaas (S)

16. Commission Petition Protest 3 – Church Orderly

Assignment: 20.8AA; 20.AA
Room: 112 TSP
Chair: Rev PA Coetzee (NW)
Scribe: Dr RM van der Merwe (OVS)
Vice scribe: Rev CJJ Putter (B)
Members: Dr JH Howell (P), elders JP Viljoen (B), D Reineke (NW), OJF Hartung (O), PGW du Plessis (RV), S NDou (B)

17. Commission Church Growth and Church Matters

Assignment: 20.1A-20.7AA; 26.1AA; 26.2AA
Room: Seminar room TSP
Chair: Rev CB Swanepoel (P)
Scribe: Rev J Malan (S)
Vice scribe: Dr P Fanoy (NW)
Members: Revs PC van Rooy (B), JJ de Bruyn (OVS), LSD du Plessis (O), MG Mdluli (RV), elders MJ Zizi (NW), RJ Muller (OVS), J Enslin (O), F Bakker (P), JF Kyessa (RV), JAJ Hoffman (B), W Smit (S)

18. Commission Media Publication

Assignment: 23.1A-23.14AA
Room: G03 TSP
Chair: Dr WC Opperman (NW)
Scribe: Dr PH Heystek (P)
Vice scribe: Rev GJ Erasmus (O)
Members: Revs D Pansegrouw (O), SFF van der Walt (NW), elders HJ Briel (B), E Blom (S)

Decision: Points 2.13.1 to 2.13.7 approved.