

13.9 REPORT 1: DEPUTIES: ADVICE IN REFERENCE AWARDS FROM THE INTEREST OF THE SUSTENTATION FUND – GENERAL (Art 221)

- A. Rev CA Jansen tables the Report.
- B. The Report will be concluded during the Synod session.

C. REPORT

1. Mandate

Acta 2009:76, 3.2.4.2 and 4.

Decision: Noted.

2. Matters that the Synod take note of

2.1 Status

See financial statements of the Administrative Bureau for the status of the sustentation fund.

2.2 Applications

2.2.1 Despite repeated requests and the explanatory notes, certain churches' applications were still not complete and did not meet all the requirements of the procedural rules. There were also applications that were neat and well-presented, containing all the necessary information and clarifications. Some Classes were very thorough, while others neglected to motivate their application.

2.2.2 Applications were reviewed as always and assessed against the procedural rules. Churches applying for sustentation were requested to provide a ministry plan in explanation of how the church aims to fulfil its calling.

2.2.3 The applications to the Sustentation fund for 2013 came to R5 454 556 and the Deputies awarded an amount R2 685 000. The Regional Synods and Classes supplemented the fund to an amount of R4 082 976.

2.2.4 The applications to the Sustentation fund for 2014 came to R5 949 810. The Deputies provided sustentation of R1 749 000. The Regional Synods and Classes supplemented the fund to an amount of R3 351 079.

2.2.5 The applications to the Sustentation fund for 2015 came to R7 667 000 (in 1985 applications totalled R190 000 – Acta 1985:46-47). The Deputies awarded an amount of R2 490 000. The Regional Synods and Classes supplemented the fund to an amount of R4 137 294 (representing 52% of the requested amount).

2.2.6 The abovementioned amount of R4 137 294 necessitates that a further R1 000 000 will have to be raised from collections in 2015. The collections of 2014 still, however, fell short of the guideline of R20 per member per year.

Decision: Points 2.1 to 2.2.6 noted.

3. Matters that the Synod decide on

3.1 Awards

The following table sets out the total awards from the contributions of the Classes, Regional Synods and GKSA Sustentation fund (in Rand):

REGIONAL SYNODS	For 2013	For 2014	For 2015
Bushveld	68 000		87 000
Pretoria	140 715	129 178	182 514
North West	1 253 980	1 264 204	1 159 697
Eastern	191 000	88 870	88 000
Free State & KwaZulu Natal	899 579	589 827	725 083
Southern	1 133 000	851 000	1 111 000
Randvaal	396 702	428 000	784 000
TOTAL	4 082 976	3 351 079	4 137 294

These amounts can be sub-divided into the contributions made by the Classis, Regional Synod and GKSA Sustentation fund (in Rand) respectively as follows:

REGIONAL SYNOD		For 2013	For 2014	For 2015
Bushveld	Classis			
	Regional Synod	40 000		64 000
	GKSA Sust	28 000		23 000
Pretoria	Classis	20 000	129 178	15 000
	Regional Synod	120 715		167 514
	GKSA Sust			
North West	Classis	64 755	81 999	171 000
	Regional Synod	466 225	604 205	421 697
	GKSA Sust	723 000	578 000	567 000
Eastern	Classis	7 000	5 000	6 000
	Regional Synod	140 000	83 870	82 000
	GKSA Sust	40 000		
Free State/KZN	Classis	64 788	69 826	67 400
	Regional Synod	177 791	180 001	163 683
	GKSA Sust	657 000	340 000	494 000
Southern	Classis	75 000	100 000	100 000
	Regional Synod	90 000	78 000	66 000
	GKSA Sust	968 000	673 000	945 000
Randvaal	Classis	23 802	155 000	178 000
	Regional Synod	107 800	115 000	145 000
	GKSA Sust	265000	158000	461

3.2 Recommendations

- 3.2.1 The Synod is to take note of the awards made and approve the actions taken by the Deputies.
- 3.2.2 The Synod is to again appoint Deputies, in accordance to the Procedural rules, to execute the following instruction: Make awards, in accordance to the Procedural rules, from the funds available in the GKSA Sustentation fund.
- 3.2.3 The awarding of funds is to be reported to Classes, Regional Synods and also the Regional Synod on an annual basis.
- 3.2.4 The Synod is to instruct the to be appointed Deputies to continue fundraising for the Sustentation fund, by seeking voluntary contributions from churches and/or institutions and/or individuals.
- 3.2.5 The Synod is to approve 5 collections per year for the Sustentation fund, setting a guideline of R25.00 per member per year.
- 3.2.6 The Synod is to request the Classes to encourage churches to ensure (by *inter alia* visitation) to take up the approved collections.

Decision: Points 3.1 to 3.2.6 approved.