

DECISIONS OF THE 9TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY AFFECTING PRESBYTERIES

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:

3. (T) The Assembly notes possible areas of work by the Committee will include:
 - a) A survey of Baptismal Preparation resources currently used in UPCSAs Churches.
 - b) A survey of Confirmation Preparation resources currently used in UPCSAs Churches.
 - c) A survey of Eldership Preparation resources currently used in UPCSAs Churches.
 - d) A survey of what courses/material is being used in UPCSAs congregations for the building up and equipping the saints for the work of ministry.
 - e) The development of a list of "Really useful Websites" for the general improvement of ministry in local churches.
 - f) Liaison with the Priorities and Resources, Ministry, Church Growth and Doctrine Committees concerning any help such a Christian Education Committee may be to their work.
 - g) The listing of what (if any) resources for Christian Education the UPCSAs currently owns and from where/whom these may be obtainable.

CHURCH ASSOCIATIONS:

7. (M) The Assembly urges the Manual of Faith and Order Committee to speed up the process of creating a section dealing with Associations and report to Executive Commission in 2011.
8. (T) The Assembly instructs all Presbytery Conveners to attend the Conveners forum to be held in October 2010.
9. (T) The Assembly instructs all Presbyteries to help establish a committee of the Association of Church Choirs and Musicians.

CHURCH DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING:

3. (M) Assembly notes the recently held "Equipping the Local Congregation" Conference, thanks the Convener and Committee and requests that the CDP Committee plan more such conferences at localised venues.
5. (T) Assembly commends the CDP website to the UPCSAs as a resource tool and encourages Ministers and Congregations to submit information about resources

they have found helpful to the committee for listing on the site. The website address is www.upcsa-cdp.org.za

6. (T) Assembly notes the successful trips undertaken by the Convener to Zambia and Zimbabwe and thanks those who were instrumental in hosting and organising the trips.
7. (M) Assembly:
 - a) rules that Transitional congregations pay assessments, in the same way that constituted congregations do, with at least the minimum payment as set by the General Assembly and instructs the Manual Committee to amend the Manual accordingly.
 - b) instructs the CDP Committee to provide Transitional Congregations with resources explaining assessments, what they are used for and the process of paying assessments.
8. (T) Assembly commends the Lay Leader Training Programme for 2011 to all Presbyteries and encourages interested Presbyteries to contact the convener.
13. (M) Assembly instructs the Ministry Committee to establish the "Order of Youth Pastors" which will provide guidelines and processes for those who would serve the church in this way. The following issues need to be considered:
 - Selection Criteria and Base requirements
 - Recognised training courses
 - Guidelines for employment and remuneration
 - Gatherings of members for encouragement and training
 - Codes of Conduct

The Assembly **referred** this proposal back to the Church Development and Planning Committee in consultation with the Ministry Committee and Mission and Evangelism Committee.

14. (M) Assembly
 - a) instructs the Ministry Committee to administer the Order of Lay Preachers.
 - b) allocates resources to the Ministry Committee to enable it to appoint a person in a part-time capacity to administer the "Order of Lay Preachers"; This post to be filled by mid 2011. **(Agreed)**
 - c) establishes the "Order of Youth Pastors" as described in the Appendix to the report.

The Assembly **referred** this section of the proposal to the Church Development and Planning Committee in consultation with the Ministry Committee and Mission and Evangelism Committee.

CHURCH OFFICE:

4. (M) The Assembly
 - i) in light of his faithful service and experience, re-appoints Mr TW Coulter as Clerk of The General Assembly with effect from 1 January 2011 to 31 December 2014. **(agreed)**
 - iii) instructs the Church Office Committee, when proposing an appointment to the Central Office, to submit the CV of the candidate to The Assembly or Executive Commission dealing with the appointment. **(agreed)**

CHURCH UNITY COMMISSION:

2. (M) The Assembly adopts the document, "Suggested Procedures for Ministerial Transfers among CUC Churches," as a set of guidelines for the procedures to be followed when a Minister of Word and Sacrament of one Member Church of the CUC applies to be received into the ministry of another Member Church.

CLERK OF ASSEMBLY:

2. The General Assembly resolves:
 - i) That the dates for Executive Commission 2011 be set as Tuesday 26th July 2011 till Friday 29th July 2011 within the bounds of the Central Cape Presbytery.
 - ii) That General Assembly 2012 starts at 10h30 on Saturday 21st July 2012 and concludes after the Closing Service on Friday 27th July 2012.
 - iii) The Assembly accepts the invitation of the Presbytery of the Western Cape to host the General Assembly of 2012 within its bounds".
4. The General Assembly resolves:
 - i) that all Committee Conveners submit at the very least the minimum of a due diligence report to the Executive Commission in 2011.
 - ii) that all reports to be considered by the Executive Commission in July 2011 shall be submitted to the Clerk of Assembly by 20 April 2011.
 - iii) that all reports received shall be printed in a form similar to the Papers for General Assembly and made available to all Commissioners at least three weeks before the Commission meets.
 - iv) that the Proceedings and Decisions of the Executive Commission 2011 be distributed to Ministers in the Yearbook at the end of the year."
5. The General Assembly;
 - i) enacts Remit GA/08/01 in its original form in terms of paragraph 12.50 (g) of the Manual of Faith and Order of the Uniting Presbyterian Church in Southern Africa.
 - ii) enacts Remit EC/09/01, in terms of paragraph 12.50 (g) of the Manual of Faith and Order of the Uniting Presbyterian Church in Southern Africa with an amendment replacing the word "four" with "five".

- iii. enacts Remit EC/09/02, in its original form in terms of paragraph 12.50 (g) of the Manual of Faith and Order of the Uniting Presbyterian Church in Southern Africa.
- iv. enacts Remit EC/09/03 in its original form in terms of paragraph 12.50 (g) of the Manual of Faith and Order of the Uniting Presbyterian Church in Southern Africa.
- v. enacts Remit EC/09/04 in its original form in terms of paragraph 12.50 (g) of the Manual of Faith and Order of the Uniting Presbyterian Church in Southern Africa.
- vi. enacts Remit EC/09/05 in its original form terms of paragraph 12.50 (g) of the Manual of Faith and Order of the Uniting Presbyterian Church in Southern Africa.

6. The General Assembly commends all Committee Conveners for their endeavours in submitting their committee reports in good time for the compiling of General Assembly Papers.

Supplementary Report:

2. The Assembly notes the changes to the circulation of the Papers for Assembly and encourages congregations to make greater use of the website.

COMMUNICATIONS AND MEDIA LIAISON:

3. (T) The Assembly requests Presbyteries and Associations to appoint Communication Coordinators who will serve as links with the Communications Committee.

CONFESSIONS OF FAITH:

2. (M) The Assembly:
 - a) approves the amended version of the UPCS A Confession of Faith in Appendix B below;
 - b)remits the amended version of the Confession of Faith in Appendix B, together with the rationales for the amendments in Appendix A, to all Presbyteries for their consideration and approval of the amended version under the Barrier Act; and
 - c) instructs all Presbyteries to send their replies to this remit to the Clerk by 30 April 2011, so that the Executive Commission in 2011 can enact the revised Confession.
3. (M) The Assembly:
 - a) approves the "Points of Doctrine Fundamental for Ordination as a Minister or an Elder" in Appendix C below but changes the title of the list of points to "Essential Doctrine for Ordination as a minister or an Elder" and adds to bullet 16 in the list of points: "...and for corruption";
 - b)remits the "Points of Doctrine Fundamental for Ordination as a Minister or an Elder" in Appendix C to all Presbyteries for their consideration and approval under the Barrier Act; and

- c) instructs them to send their replies to this remit to the Clerk by 30 April 2011, so that the Executive Commission in 2011 can enact their adoption.

COUNCIL FOR WORLD MISSION:

3. (T) Assembly encourages the Presbyteries/ Sessions to sensitise their constituencies to begin to apply for some of the CWM Programmes currently on offer.

COURT OF ASSEMBLY AND ADMINISTRATIVE REVIEW PANEL:

The Moderator pointed out that those elected to the Court of Assembly would automatically be appointed to the Administrative Review Panel.

1. The Assembly receives the report.

COURT OF ASSEMBLY AND ARP (Election of members):

The following Nominees were elected to the Court and ARP:

Ministers

The Rev. CW. Leeuw
The Rev. DS. Bax
The Rev. P. Langerman
The Rev. M. Ramulondi
The Rev. GT. Mcoteli
The Rev. P. Phiri

Alternatives:

Rev. Dr. V. Vellem
The Rev. DT. Ntanda

Elders

Adv. SM. Shaba
Mr. L. Mbandazayo
Mr. H. Cochrane
Mrs. L. Makamure
Mr. NB. Dlamini
Mrs. MK. Havenga

Alternates:

Mr. T. Lubanga
Mr. PH. Havenga
Mr. WR. Ngulube

The Rev. CW. Leeuw was elected as the Convenor of the Court of Assembly/ARP.

DECISION-MAKING (AD HOC COMMITTEE):

2. (T) The Assembly instructs all Presbyteries that have not already conducted a "Consensus Imbizo" to do so before the 28th February 2011.
3. (M) The Assembly urges all Presbyteries to choose their Commissioners to Assembly so that, as far as possible, half of them will be commissioners who have attended Assembly before and half have not.
4. (M) The Assembly
- a) agrees to hold a summit on the "Church and Poverty" within the UPCSА;
 - b) directs the Justice and Social Responsibility Committees in the respective countries to oversee arrangements for this in their respective countries;
 - c) requests Presbyteries and Congregations to engage the issue of poverty and to offer models of ministry for poor Congregations; and
 - d) instructs the Conveners of the three Justice and Social Responsibility Committees to provide a consolidated report to the Executive Commission in 2011.

DOCTRINE ETHICS AND DISCIPLINE:

3. (M) The General Assembly:
- a) adopts the two documents, "Ten Questions about Baptism" and "Some Answers To Help Parents" in Appendix B and "The Meaning and Challenge of Baptism" in Appendix C below as official documents of the UPCSА;
 - b) commends them to Ministers and Elders for pastoral use with and instruction of parents applying for the Baptism of their children; and
 - c) instructs the Clerk to have the documents printed as two booklets, make them available on a cost-recovery basis, advertise them to all Ministers and Sessions and also make copies available at future General Assemblies and Executive Commissions.
 - d) instructs the General Secretary to make these documents available on the UPCSА website.
 - e) instructs the Translations Committee to translate these document into languages used in the UPCSА.
4. (T) The Assembly draws the attention of:
- a) all interested in becoming members of the Order of Lay Preachers and
 - b) all concerned with advising those who are so interested to the document on how to become a member of the Order in Appendix D.

ECUMENICAL RELATIONSHIPS:

3. (T) The Assembly instructs all Congregations and Presbyteries that have not already submitted details about their partnerships with other congregations and/or Presbyteries and/or Synods abroad to do so by the 30th December 2010.

4. (M) The Assembly instructs all Presbyteries that have not appointed an Ecumenical Relationships liaison person or committee to do so at their next meeting, and to submit details to the General Secretary by the 28th February 2011
5. (M) The Assembly Authorises:
 - a) the Moderator of Assembly and General Secretary to make public statements on behalf of the UPCSA on issues that are of an urgent nature, in consultation with the most closely related Conveners of committees and other relevant parties when they deem this necessary.
 - b) instruct the Moderator and General Secretary to make all such statements available to Presbyteries and Congregations.
 - c) urges Committee Conveners, especially JSR, to identify national issues that need to be addressed in this way.
 - d) permits the Moderator of each Presbytery, and the Clerk of each Presbytery, in consultation with the General Secretary, to make public statements concerning local issues, on behalf of their Presbyteries.
 - e) instructs the Manual Committee to insert these rules into the Manual of Faith and Order.
6. (M) The Assembly:
 - i) endorses the view expressed on State and Church Relationships as found in the body of the report.
 - ii) draws attention to article 25 and 26 on 'Church and State' and 'Peace and Conflict' in the UPCSA Confession of Faith.
 - iii) encourages the Church to take advantage of opportunities to partner with the state in poverty alleviation.
8. (M) The Assembly:
 - a) instructs the General Secretary to circulate the main points of the critique of the Accra Confession that Presbyteries have already submitted to him;
 - b) urges Presbyteries and Congregations which have not studied the Accra Confession to do so along with these main points;
 - c) urges Congregations to implement or apply, in their particular context, the ideas that emerged out of the Ecumenical Consultation concerning how the Accra Confession might be applied or implemented.
10. (M) The Assembly:
 - a) adopts the document of principles and procedures on Partnerships with other Churches as found in Appendix 1 at the end of the report.
 - b) instructs the General Secretary to make it available to all Presbyteries and congregations.
11. (T) The Assembly gives thanks to God for the establishment of the World Communion of Reformed Churches, and encourages its members to use the information available on the website: www.reformedchurches.org where possible.

FARMS:

5. (M) The Assembly instructs the Finance Committee to investigate the possibility of utilising the money raised from the sale of Mpolweni farm to improve the pension of all ministers of Zimbabwe and Zambia and the former RPCSA, to be more on a par with the pensions of their colleagues from the former PCSA.

FINANCE:

5. (T) The General Assembly notes that the RB Hagart Trust Fund was established to assist retired ministers and their spouses and invites motivated applications to assist with emergency medical expenses and requests Presbyteries to advise retired ministers of this facility
7. (T) The General Assembly notes that the on-going non-identification of payments made into the UPCSA banking account will have major negative financial implications to the denomination and to congregations and ministers as these payments made and not identified may have been meant for loan repayments, assessments, medical aid, pension fund contributions or other intended recipients.
8. (M) The General Assembly:
 - i) notes with regret, concern and shame that an amount of R550 000 remains owing to the UPCSA for past loans, many of which are not being serviced.
 - ii) instructs ministers with loans to pay them through their Presbyteries to facilitate accountability.
 - iii) instructs the chief financial officer to inform Presbyteries of outstanding loans.
 - iv) instructs Presbyteries to hold the defaulters accountable and report to the finance committee of General Assembly.
 - v) instructs the Finance Committee to develop a policy for issuing loans which safeguards against defaulting before loans are approved.
12. (M) The General Assembly:
 - a) endorses the following arrear assessment reduction plan:
 - i) applications for reduction of arrear assessments to be submitted to the Presbyteries by 30 June 2011.
 - ii) applications to include the prescribed yellow form for 2009, together with payment of minimum assessments for that year; evidence of the total amount of assessments in arrears at the end of 2009 and an indication of why the arrear assessments have arisen.
 - iii) Presbyteries to assess the validity of each application and the congregation's ability to address the arrears, bearing in mind that all congregations will be expected to keep assessments up to date with effect from 2010.
 - iv) Presbyteries to recommend to the Finance Committee the degree to which a reduction of arrear assessments should be granted, bearing in mind that the Finance Committee's original intention was to offer a 50% reduction.

- v) any concession granted by the Finance Committee will be subject to:
 - a) compliance by the congregation with the requirements for submission of financial information, and
 - b) payment of current assessments.
 - vi) any payment towards arrear assessments to be made by a congregation in terms of this arrangement to be made to the Presbytery, which has the responsibility of monitoring such payments.
 - vii) any funds raised specifically by a congregation to meet their obligation in terms of this arrangement to be free from assessment in terms of the Rules of Assessment.
 - viii) failure to comply with the arrangement put in place in terms of this process will result in the original debt being reinstated.
- b) instructs the Finance Committee to set up and communicate the necessary mechanisms to implement the plan as from 1 January 2011.

Supplementary Report:

5. (Notice of Motion **M2**)

"General Assembly sets the General Assembly rate of Assessment for 2011 as follows:

| | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------------|
| <i>Up to R100 000</i> | <i>2.5%</i> | <i>of the Congregational Income</i> |
| <i>Up to R200 000</i> | <i>5%</i> | <i>of the Congregational Income</i> |
| <i>Up to R300 000</i> | <i>7.5%</i> | <i>of the Congregational Income</i> |
| <i>Up to R400 000</i> | <i>10%</i> | <i>of the Congregational Income</i> |
| <i>Up to R1 000 000</i> | <i>12.5%</i> | <i>of the Congregational Income</i> |
| <i>Over R1 000 000</i> | <i>15%</i> | <i>of the Congregational Income</i> |

with effect from 1 January 2011, and the assessment rate shall apply to the total Congregational Income."

This Notice of Motion was amended to read:

The General Assembly:

- i) instructs the Finance Committee in consultation with Priority and Resources Committee to reconsider the rate of assessment and the method of collection using the information at their disposal
- ii) refers the original Notice of Motion M2 to the Finance Committee
- iii) instructs the Finance Committee to report to the Executive Commission in 2011. **(agreed)**

6. (Notice of Motion **M3**)

The General Assembly instructs the Finance Committee:

- a) *to reformulate a comprehensive travel plan for the UPCSA giving due consideration to the diverse needs and affordability of the Church, and*
- b) *report to the Executive Commission in July 2011.*

GENERAL SECRETARY:

- 3. (M) The Assembly:
 - a) refers the issues of gender reflection, homosexuality, polygamy and ancestral issues raised by the Manual Imbizo to the Doctrine, Ethics and Discipline Committee;
 - b) refers points 20, 24, on page 180 of the Assembly Papers of the Manual Imbizo report to Presbyteries for immediate implementation;
 - c) refers the rest of the issues raised by the Imbizo to the Manual Committee to study and reflect on; and
 - d) instructs the Priorities and Resources Committee, assisted by an independent team of people, to formulate the values needed to undergird the processes and procedures within the UPCSA and to report to the 2011 Executive Commission.
- 5. (T) The Assembly urges Presbyteries that have not already secured dates for a visit from the General Secretary to do so before 30th November 2010.
- 6. (M) The Assembly encourages Presbyteries to:
 - a) design practical programmes to work towards reconciliation, peace, and unity;
 - b) allow sufficient time in their meetings for worship, fellowship and relationship-building exercises;
 - c) hold regular consistory meetings for ministers and occasionally including Elders,
 - d) host an annual retreat and/or workshops for the entire Presbytery on themes related to the gospel and on relationship-building.
 - e) The Assembly instructs: Presbytery Clerks to report diligence on b, c, and d to the General Secretary to be conveyed to the next Executive Commission or General Assembly.
- 7. (M) The Assembly adopts the "Presbytery Empowerment Plan" provided that points 3.8 and 3.9 under infrastructure, finance and assessments are taken into account with the decisions taken at the 2010 General Assembly and directs the General Secretary to facilitate its implementation in consultation with the Monitoring Team.
- 8. (M) The General Assembly:
 - a) instructs the Congregation Integration Committee to establish a programme of action for Congregational Integration aligned to the terms of reference of this Committee.
 - b) instructs Presbyteries to appoint Congregational Integration Committees, if they have not already done so.
 - c) instructs Presbytery Clerks to provide the name and contact details of the Committee Convener to the General Secretary by the 1st March 2011.
 - d) instructs the General Secretary to report on this to the 2011 Executive Commission.
- 10) (M).The Assembly:
 - a) adopts the document of principles and procedures on Partnerships with other Churches as found in Appendix 1 at the end of the report

- b) instructs the General Secretary to make it available to all Presbyteries and Congregations

Supplementary report:

- 3. (M) The Assembly:
 - 3.1 approves the dates of the Conference as from 7-11th September 2011.
 - 3.2 requests congregations to release their ministers for Sunday, 11th September 2011, and encourages the arrangement of an internal pulpit supply for that Sunday, where possible.
- 4. (M) The Assembly urges congregations and Presbyteries to cover the cost of travel and accommodation for ministers and their spouses attending the Conference.

HIV/AIDS (Consolidated):

- 3. (T) The General Assembly notes the list of Presbyteries and congregations that received support from CWM funding and encourages Presbyteries to monitor these projects.
- 4. (T) The General Assembly encourages Presbyteries and congregations that have HIV and AIDS projects funded by ecumenical partners to provide such information to the HIV/AIDS Committee or Ecumenical Relations Committee.

Supplementary Report:

- 2. (T) The General Assembly notes the draft HIV and AIDS Policy and instructs Presbyteries to study it and forward comments to the HIV and AIDS Coordinator at Central Office by 31st of March 2011.

LIFE CONCERNS:

- 2. (T) The General Assembly encourages every member of the UPCSA to engage with the issues of life concerns in an attitude of mature and responsible Christian debate, a debate that is grounded in our Saviour's love for us and His Creation.

MAINTENANCE OF THE MINISTRY:

- 2. (M) The Assembly:
 - (a) i) adopts the Minimum Stipend scale for the year 1st January – 31st December 2011 as recorded in the body of the report in the case of South Africa; **(Agreed)**
 - ii) instructs the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee to investigate linking stipends to the CPIX in each country; **(Agreed)**

- iii) grants the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee the authority to approve the minimum stipend scale and transport allowance for churches in Zambia and Zimbabwe for 2011 in consultation with the Synod of Zambia and the Presbytery of Zimbabwe respectively, and **(Agreed)**

- iv) instructs the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee to conduct a market related remuneration survey in South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe and on the basis of it, to propose to the Executive Commission in 2011 a new set of minimum stipends. **(Agreed)**

- (b) resolves that the Minimum travel allowance for ministers be set as R3 600 as from 1 January 2011 with regard to South Africa. **(Agreed)**

- (c) The Assembly:

- i) sets the pulpit supply fee at R 400 or the equivalent in US dollars for Zimbabwe and Zambian Kwacha for Zambia per service
- ii) requests The Maintenance of the Ministry Committee to provide guidelines for travel related to pulpit supply and instructs that in the meantime Presbyteries set the policy for travel. **(agreed)**

- (d) grants to the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee the authority to approve the minimum Stipend scales and transport allowance for churches in Zambia and Zimbabwe for 2011 in consultation with the Synod of Zambia and Presbytery of Zimbabwe respectively.

*The Assembly **agreed** to pass from the subject.*

- 3. (M) The Assembly instructs all Presbyteries to report, by 31 March 2011, to the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee (in terms of para 10.27 (q) of the Manual) on the complete 2010 emoluments of all the ministers under their care and discipline, whether seconded or in pastoral charge.
- 4. (M).The Assembly:
 - a) notes that the UPCSA Loan Scheme will be re-introduced in 2011 with the principles outlined in the report.
 - b) instructs the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee to investigate alternative ways of securing loans and report to the Executive Commission in 2011.
- 5. (M) The Assembly:
 - i) thanks the Committee for its work, and refers the proposal back to the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee for further research and report on the implementation of the Centralisation of Stipends system and instructs it to give a detailed report to the 2011 Executive Commission.
 - ii) instructs the Maintenance of the Ministry Committee to work with Presbyteries to explore the possibility of implementing such a system.

MANUAL:

- 3. (T) The General Assembly commends the "Procedure in a Vacancy Flow Chart" and approves that it be included in the *Manual* as an Appendix to Chapter 16 of the *Manual of Faith and Order*.

4. (T) The General Assembly:
 - a) commends the "Checklist for the Moderator and the Clerk of the Presbytery When Considering a Call" for use and
 - b) approves that it be included as an Appendix to Chapter 16 of the Manual of Faith and Order.
5. (M) The General Assembly amends para 16.111 (c) to read:
 - 16.111 Secondment may be considered ... (c) to specialised ministries recognised by this Church or to any Chaplaincy in the Military, the Police or the Correctional Services;

MINISTERIAL MARRIAGE AND FAMILY CARE:

2. (T) The General Assembly commends those Presbyteries that have an active (and pro-active) Pastoral Care Programme for ministers and their families.

MODERATOR DESIGNATE:

The Rev RJ Botsis was elected as Moderator Designate of the General Assembly.

OVERTURES:

OVERTURE 3:

PAYMENT OF ASSESSMENTS AND THE CALLING OF MINISTERS:

"The Presbytery of the Western Cape overtures the venerable General Assembly:

1. to permit congregations that are not up to date with their assessments to General Assembly and/or their Presbyteries to call a minister, provided that they have supplied justification acceptable to their Presbyteries for their failure to be up to date.
2. to instruct:
 - i) its Finance Committee to work through Presbytery Treasurers and Finance Committees to ensure that congregations pay their assessments to General Assembly and their Presbyteries; and
 - ii) to amend the Manual of Faith and Order by removing the words "or are in arrears with the payment of assessments to the Council of the Church" from chapter 16 para 3 and any other reference to the same rule from the Manual of Faith and Order of the UPCSA."

Referred to Presbyteries for comment and report back at the Executive Commission of 2011.

PENSION FUNDS (UPCSA):

5. (M) General Assembly;
 - i) instructs Presbyteries to follow up on all Congregations and Ministers not making regular monthly contributions to the Pension Fund, and take appropriate action, and

- ii) instructs the Principal Financial Officers of the Pension Funds to make this information available to Presbyteries.

Supplementary Report:

3. (Notice of Motion **M5**)

The Assembly adopts the following amendments in Chapter 16 of the Manual:

16.6 *A Minister who wishes to retire prematurely from the active Ministry of this Church on the ground of infirmity, physical disability, ill-health, or for any other reason, applies to the Presbytery for permission to retire early. The Presbytery reports the facts, and submits its recommendations to the Board of Trustees of the UPCSA Pension Fund which may or may not approve the application. If the application is approved the Minister tenders his/her resignation from the pastoral charge to the Presbytery or, in the case of a Minister occupying an administrative post in the Central Office, to the Church Office Committee.*

16.7 *A Minister retires at the end of the month in which he/she reaches Normal Retirement Age of 65 years, unless otherwise provided for in the Rules of the UPCSA Pension Fund.*

Note: *The Rules of the Fund provide for a Minister who was a member of the PCSA Pension Fund at 31 December 1999 to retire at the end of the month in which he/she reaches the age of 68 years and for a Minister who was a member of the RPCSA Pension Fund at 31 December 1999 to retire at the end of the month in which he/she reaches the age of 70 years.*

16.8.1 *A Minister or a person occupying a post designated as a pensionable post by the General Assembly retires in accordance with the Rules of the UPCSA Pension Fund. On a Minister's retirement the General Assembly may declare him/her to be a Minister Emeritus of this Church with a seat in the Presbytery within whose boundaries he/she resides, but without ministerial connection with the Congregation which he/she last served except by invitation of the Interim Moderator or the subsequent Minister in matters other than executive action or decision making.*

16.8.2 *On retirement in terms of these rules the Minister shall receive the benefits of the UPCSA Pension Fund applicable in his/her case in accordance with the relevant rule of the Fund in force at the time of the retirement.*

Retirement Procedure

16.9 *At least six months prior to the date on which he/she is to reach Normal Retirement Age a Minister informs the Session of the Congregation in which he/she is serving of his/her impending retirement and the Session in turn informs the Presbytery. A Minister in an administrative post in the Central Office of the Church informs the Church Office Committee of his/her impending retirement and the Committee in turn informs the Presbytery in which the Minister has a seat (see para 10.27(r)). A Minister*

in a seconded post, or without charge, informs the Presbytery Clerk of his/her impending retirement. In each case the Presbytery informs the Ministry Committee of General Assembly and the Board of Trustees of the UPCSA Pension Fund and may apply to the General Assembly or its Executive Commission for the Minister to be declared a Minister Emeritus.

16.10 *The Presbytery arranges for a Valedictory Service to take place close to the date on which the retirement is to take effect (see the Service Book and Ordinal). Thereafter the Presbytery on which the retired minister has been granted a seat exercises pastoral care of him/her and takes note of the provisions concerning Stated Supply in paras 16.147ff below.*

16.107 *If a Minister is in a secular full-time post the rules on stipends, emoluments, Long Leave and pension contributions given above do not apply unless the Minister remains a member of the Fund in terms of its Rules. [Delete: except that the Congregation remains liable to pay the pension contributions it would pay for a Minister who has no secular work.] If the Minister wishes to stay in the manse he/she may do so if*
(a) *the Session and the relevant financial authority (on this term see Chapter 8) agree that he/she may; and*
(b) *it is agreed that he/she will pay the Congregation a specified sum equivalent to the rental value of the premises (which may be altered from time to time).*

PETITIONS:

PETITION 1:

CHURCH ASSOCIATIONS

"The General Assembly agrees to recognise and approve the existence of more than one set of Associations within the UPCSA."

This Petition was **ruled out of Order** by the Moderator.

PRESBYTERIAN EDUCATIONAL FUND:

3. (T) The Assembly declares Sunday, 12th June 2011, as PEF Sunday.
5. (M) That the Assembly requests all corresponding Trustees to make the new change in the accounting procedures in the General Assembly Office procedure known to the congregations in their Presbyteries, with the banking details for donations.

PRIORITIES AND RESOURCES:

2. (T) The Assembly notes the holding of the 2009 Ministers' Conference.
6. (M) The Assembly approves the terms of reference for existing committees for the two years up to the next General Assembly.

RECORDS:

2. (T) The Assembly instructs Committees and Presbyteries which have not brought their books for attestation to do so in the next Executive Commission.

STEWARDSHIP:

2. (T) The Assembly:
 - a) instructs Presbyteries to appoint Stewardship Conveners who will assist in the execution and evaluation of the programme by 28 February 2011.
 - b) urges the Church Office Committee to consider the appointment of a full-time Stewardship Coordinator at the Central Office, and if deemed necessary, to consult with the Finance Committee on the possibility of funding such a post and report to the Executive Commission in 2011.

TRAINING IN ELDERSHIP:

2. (T) The Assembly reminds Presbyteries of the need to appoint Presbytery Representatives and to provide the TIE committee with contact details.

UNITED BOARD OF FREE CHURCHES:

2. (M) The General Assembly encourages the members of the UBFC through the Ecumenical Relations Committee to participate in the life and work of the UBFC.

WORSHIP:

2. (M) The Assembly adopts the amendments to the Orders for the Ordination and/or Induction of Ministers in Appendix A to the report.
3. (M) The Assembly:
 - (a) draws the attention of Presbyteries to the amended Minister's Vow/"Declaration" for ordinations and inductions referred to in, and located by, the Report and so to the amendments to the *Manual*, par. 2.6.2 and 2.6.3 (Chap 2 Pg. 33-35) with regard to the ordination and induction of Ministers; and
 - (b) draws the attention of Ministers and Sessions to the amended Elder's Vow/"Declaration" referred to in, and located by, the Report and so to the amendments to the *Manual*, par. 2.6.4 (Chap 2 Pg. 35) with regard to the ordination and induction of Elders.
4. (M) The Assembly adopts the amendments in Appendix B below to:
 - (a) the Notice in par. 16.45 in the *Manual* (Chap 16 Pg. 10) and
 - (b) the Edict in App. C(1), par. 2 in the *Manual* (App. Pg. 13-14).

5. (M) The Assembly:
 - (a) approves the thinking of the Committee concerning the form that the Order for the Licensing and Appointment of Probationers should take;
 - (b) accepts the Reformed tradition that normally only ordination imparts the right to celebrate the sacraments;
 - (c) rules accordingly that Probationers *not* normally be licensed to celebrate the sacraments but that in circumstances like those described in the Report a Probationer may be granted a licence to celebrate *as a special dispensation*;

This was referred to the Ministry Committee.

- (d) grants the Committee and the Assembly Office leave to distribute an Order for the Licensing and Appointment of Probationers along these lines for use and comment before this has been submitted to Assembly or the Executive Commission for approval in detail.

6. (M) The Assembly accordingly:
 - (a) amends par. 17.37 and 17.39 of the *Manual of Faith and Order* to read as in Appendix C below; and
 - (b) sends the amended paragraphs together with their rationale in the body of the report to all Presbyteries for consideration and approval in terms of par. 12.50-51 of the *Manual of Faith and Order*, replies to be sent to the Clerk of Assembly by 30 April 2011, with a copy for the convener.

This was referred to Ministry Committee.

7. (M) The Assembly adopts the amendments and the addition to the Narratives in Appendix D.
8. (M) The Assembly adopts the amendments in Appendix E to:
 - (a) the Order Preceding Holy Communion,
 - (b) the three Orders for Holy Communion except for the change in the third Communion Order on page 243 "be nourished with His very body and blood", to be changed to a clearly non-receptionist wording; and
 - (c) the Order for Worship on the Lord's Day without Holy Communion and the amendments in the body of the Report to do with the Commandments.
9. (M) The Assembly adopts the Seasonal Prefaces in Appendix F.
10. (M) The Assembly adopts the amendments to the Order for a Congregation to Reaffirm the Covenant (*Mnqophiso* service) in Appendix G.
11. (M) The Assembly adopts the historical note and the amended rationale in Appendix H to be printed as a preface to the Order for the Confession of Sins and Assurance of Grace.
12. (M) The Assembly authorizes:
 - (a) the Worship Committee to make other Orders and items available to the Assembly Office for printing, as it finishes drafting them and before the Assembly or Executive Commission approves and adopts them, provided that they are not ordinal or other Orders that require approval in terms of the *Manual*; and
 - (b) the Assembly Office to proceed with printing such Orders and making them available on a cost-recovery basis.

This proposal was lost.

Supplementary Report (P.331-341):

14. (M) The Assembly adopts the Order for the Baptism of Believers as printed in the Papers, Proceedings and Decisions of the Executive Commission 2009, p.186-191, and approved by that Executive Commission, with the amendments to the Baptismal Prayer and the Vow proposed in Appendix I below.
15. (M) The Assembly adopts the Order for Holy Communion with Children as printed in the Papers for the 8th General Assembly 2008, p.310-313 and approved by that Assembly with minor amendments (Proceedings and Decisions of the 8th General Assembly 2008, p.503, no.3).
16. (M) The Assembly adopts all the amendments to the Order for the Ordination and Induction of Ministers proposed in Appendix J below and specifically affecting:
 - a) the Ordination Prayer,
 - b) the Moderator's Declaration, and
 - c) the Statement on the Ministry and Mission of the People of God.
17. (M) The Assembly further:
 - a) authorizes the Committee to shorten the Orders for Ordination and/or Induction in any minor ways that are appropriate and do not injure the Orders as a whole;
 - b) instructs the Committee to examine in what appropriate ways the various Narratives for these Orders can be shortened and report to the 2011 Executive Commission on this; and
 - c) instructs the Committee to explore whether, and if so in what appropriate ways, the Declaration of Standards can be shortened and report to the 2011 Executive Commission on this.
18. (M) In the light of its adoption of proposal 16(b) above, the Assembly amends Appendix C(2).1 in the *Manual of Faith and Order* (App. Pg. 15) to accord with it.
19. (M) The Assembly:
 - a) adopts the amendments to the Orders for the Ordination and/or Induction of Elders proposed in Appendix K below; and
 - b) urges Ministers and Sessions to inform the Committee whether or not they think the Vow in these Orders should be shortened, and if so how.
20. (M) The Assembly adopts the Order for the Induction of Deacons as printed in the Papers, Proceedings and Decisions of the Executive Commission 2009, p.192-194, and approved by the Executive Commission in 2009, together with the amendments proposed in Appendix L below.

21. (M) The Assembly:
 - a) approves the Order for the Reception of Members by Transfer etc. in Appendix M below for use and comment, and
 - b) urges Ministers to use this Order and send comments on it to the convener by 31 March 2011, so that it can be amended if necessary and submitted to the Executive Commission in 2011 for adoption.

22. (M) The Assembly:
 - a) officially adopts the Revised Common Lectionary as the official lectionary of the UPCSA; and
 - b) adopts Appendix N below as a preface to the *Lectionary*, to be printed in the *Service Book and Ordinal*.