

GEREFORMEERDE KERKE IN SUID-AFRIKA

ACTS

OF THE THIRD GENERAL SYNOD AT POTCHEFSTROOM ON 6 JANUARY 2015 AND FOLLOWING DAYS

1. OPENING

1.1 *Opening 6 January 2015 (Art 1)*

Rev HS Coetzee, chairperson of the Calling Church Council Potchefstroom-Die Bult, opens the meeting by leading worship from Psalm 100, reading Ephesians 4:20–32, and providing relevant exposition of the read passage. He then leads the meeting in prayer.

1.2 *Welcoming (Art 1)*

Rev HS Coetzee heartily welcomes all delegates to Potchefstroom.

1.3 *Constitution (Art 2)*

Rev HS Coetzee then puts the names of delegates according to the letters of credentials as received from the respective Regional Synods to the meeting (Annexure 1). The following brothers are present as primi except where otherwise indicated:

Regional Synod Bushveld

Ministers

Rev JA Berg
Rev SA Cilliers
Rev HJP de Beer
Rev LJ Erasmus
Rev HB Hattingh
Rev PJ Jansen van Nieuwenhuizen
Dr EJ de Beer
Rev PR Gouws
Rev NN Ligege
Rev RN Makungo
Rev MN Muhadi
Rev CJJ Putter
Rev LP Ndou
Rev N Boy
Dr DJ de Kock
Rev G Opperman
Rev PC van Rooy
Rev NJ van der Walt
Rev CJ van Vuuren

Elders

Elder S Chambers
Elder MPA de Beer
Elder J Groothof
Elder JAJ Hoffman
Elder JA Hoogenboezem
Elder PJ Jacobs
Elder J Kotze
Elder JJ Prinsloo
Elder H van Tonder
Elder JTS van der Merwe
Elder DM Kruger
Elder TT Mulungwa
Elder JP Viljoen
Elder HJ Briel
Elder PJ Kruger
Elder PH Rheeders
Elder GK Schuring

Eastern Regional Synod

Ministers

Rev PW Kurpershoek
Rev R Jansen van Vuuren
Rev LSD du Plessis
Rev MJ Erasmus
Rev GJ Erasmus
Rev PJ van der Walt
Rev D Pansegrouw
Rev GC Coetzee
Rev CJH Breed
Rev CA Jansen
Rev DJ Bakker
Rev EJ Tiemensma
Rev MM Molokwane
Rev JL Aucamp
Rev RP Buys
Rev JJJ Erasmus
Dr AJ Krüger
Rev SJMS Smit
Rev LP van Jaarsveld
Rev MA Modise

Elders

Elder DH Noppe
Elder AT Dreyer
Elder DL de Beer
Elder P Moshia
Elder BD Bakker
Elder B van Wetten
Elder W Buys
Elder OJF Hartung
Elder J Enslin
Elder JC Kruger
Elder APJ Reedijk
Elder JP Dreyer

Regional Synod Free State and KwaZulu-Natal

Ministers

Dr JA Erasmus
Rev AH Stavast
Rev AP Kruger
Rev JL van der Schyff
Rev SJB Lee
Rev OJ Struwig
Rev MJ Smidt
Rev AL Pelser
Rev JJ de Bruyn
Rev TJ van Vuuren
Rev JH Grobler
Rev WJ Botha
Rev DG Zwemstra
Rev CD Jaftha
Rev W van den Heever
Rev JE Franck
Rev JG van der Walt
Rev GJJ van der Merwe

Elders

Elder JE Kotzé
Elder AB du Plessis
Elder WH Taljaard
Elder JP van Jaarsveld
Elder L Kotze (sec)
Elder J Cronje (sec)
Elder ES Phungula (sec)
Elder PA Welken (sec)
Elder JF Lowings
Elder RJ Muller
Elder JA Kruger
Elder GJ Coetzee
Elder PJ Kruger
Elder TE Ndlovu
Elder PM Tsotetsi
Elder JK Sithole
Elder AJ Burger
Elder MJ Lourens
Elder LE Kotzé

Regional Synod Pretoria

Ministers

Rev HL Stavast
Rev C Aucamp
Rev PJ Venter (sec)
Dr JH Howell
Rev BC Smit
Dr GJ Meijer
Rev JG Noëth
Rev GS Kruger
Rev CB Swanepoel
Rev M van Helden
Rev GP van Rhyn
Dr HM Zwemstra
Rev BCG Fourie
Dr PH Heystek
Dr SP van der Schyff (sec)
Rev PJ Nel
Rev SD Snyman
Rev HPM van Rhyn
Rev PGP le Roux
Dr DG Breed

Elders

Elder RE le R Viljoen
Elder PJ Buys
Elder F Bakker
Elder JE Boersema
Elder CJ van der Linde
Elder AN Steyn
Elder PJ Oelofse
Elder JCE Kruger
Elder A Venter
Elder BG Kukkuk
Elder C Skinner
Elder AM van der Kruk

Regional Synod Randvaal

Ministers

Dr D Lartz
Rev JA Schutte
Dr H Goede
Rev EP Nel
Dr G van Wyk
Dr WC Vergeer
Dr De W Saaiman
Rev D van 't Zand
Rev PM Modise
Rev ASA de Bruyn
Rev HW Schutte
Rev HJ Stoltz
Rev FM Dreyer (sec)
Rev LP Baloyi
Dr DM Nkulu
Rev HC van Rooy
Rev TF Dreyer

Elders

Elder LJ van Vuuren
Elder BA Potgieter
Elder P Ligthelm
Elder G Kotzee
Elder J Radebe
Elder A Niehof
Elder PM Magqabi
Elder J Hoogendyk
Elder P Joubert
Elder JJ Howell
Elder E Ngakane
Elder K Mukata
Elder JF Kyessa
Elder PM de Klerk
Elder MW Britts

Southern Regional Synod

Ministers

Rev JJ Cloete
Rev DJ de Bruyn
Rev PJ de Bruyn
Rev JJ de Kock
Dr JV Fatuse
Rev JP Fleischmann
Rev MP Fourie
Rev W Jobse
Dr SN Jooste
Rev BR Kingma
Rev MJ Lourens
Rev J Malan
Rev TJ Potgieter
Rev WP van der Merwe
Rev JP van der Walt
Rev JH Venter
Rev CCA Vrey

Elders

Elder P Aucamp
Elder K Bain
Elder E Blom
Elder AJD Boon
Elder GL Erasmus
Elder TE Gxotani
Elder SN Klaas
Elder SA Pama
Elder MA Pelesa
Elder WH Smit
Elder WHS Steinberg
Elder BJ van der Walt
Elder AJ Venter

Regional Synod North West

Ministers

Dr AJ Coetsee
Rev HS Coetzee
Rev PA Coetzee
Dr TC de Klerk
Dr P Fanoy
Rev PM Lekgetho
Dr J Lion-Cachet
Rev PL Mathebula
Rev TJ Moletsane
Rev OL Moncho
Dr WC Opperman
Rev ED Pelele
Dr GJ van Wyk (sec)
Rev OI Rooibaadjie
Rev FJ van Dyk (sec)
Rev AB van der Walt
Rev SFF van der Walt
Dr HF van Wyk
Rev P Venter
Rev W Vogel

Elders

Elder M Serobatse (sec)
Elder DJ de Kock
Elder PGW Jansen van Vuuren
Elder J Malunga (sec)
Elder HAJ Oosthuizen
Elder SO Oostruis
Elder AJH Pieterse
Elder FJWJ Slabbert
Elder PT van der Steen
Elder D van Wyk
Elder JJM Verhoef
Elder TG Mothobi (sec)
Elder DA Kgatitsoe (sec)
Elder EA Mtsebezo (sec)
Elder TP Sebokedi

Rev HS Coetzee declares that the meeting is properly constituted in the light of the delegates present, and that it can continue with its activities.

1.4 *Election of a Moderamen (Art 3)*

The following brothers are elected by secret ballot with majority vote to the Moderamen:

Chairperson: Dr DG Breed
Deputy-chairperson: Rev SD Snyman
Scribe: Rev HJP de Beer
Deputy-scribe: Dr D Lartz
Deputy-scribe: Rev MA Modise

The elected brothers take their seats.

1.5 *Public Declaration (Art 4)*

The chairperson, dr DG Breed, expresses the intention on behalf of the Moderamen to serve the meeting to the best of their abilities and gifts with the assistance of the Lord. He proceeds to put to the meeting the Public Declaration with which all delegates as well as representatives of foreign churches with whom the GKSA has ecumenical ties indicate their concurrence by standing up.

2. **WORSHIP SERVICE 6 JANUARY 2015 (Art 20)**

Prof JM Vorster leads the worship service with Matt 16 vers 18 and 19 as text verses. The chairperson, dr DG Breed, thanks him for the relevant message to the meeting in session.

2.1 *Messages of greetings from Inland Churches (Art 21)*

The deputy-chairperson, rev SD Snyman, welcomes the following representatives in the meeting: Dr R Denton (NHKA) and prof CJP Niemandt (NGK).

Those involved are called upon in turn to convey messages of greeting from the respective churches. After completion the deputy-chairperson, rev SD Snyman, directs a word of thanks to the respective representatives and their churches.

2.2 *Motions and Congratulatory (Art 206)*

2.2.1 Motion of sympathy

Emeritus ministers and widows passed away from 2012 to 2014

Mrs Jansie Smit, Mrs Sarie van der Walt, revs JH Schutte, ASL Minnaar, Mrs AJ Stoltz, revs H van der Bijl, J Venter, W Venter, A van der Walt, N Vorster, JH Viljoen, P Snyman, Mrs L van der Vyver, rev JPB van der Walt, dr LJJ Coetzee, revs JC Erasmus, CM Janse van Vuuren, Mrs EC Janse van Vuuren, revs JJ Breedt, DCP Stoltz, JH Coetzee, dr MP Kruger, rev GHJ Kruger, Mrs AM Bester, dr CN van der Merwe, Mrs JS Jooste, BJ van der Walt, M de Klerk, HJO Malan, LJ van der Walt, CC van Wyk de Vries, dr JL Ras, revs PJS de Klerk, K van Niekerk, J Kits, prof PJ de Bruyn, rev HA Louw, Mrs MM Botha.

Minister passed away in active service

Rev L vd M Vogel.

Family of Ministers

Mrs DRP Jaftha, revs CJ Nagel (jr) grandmother, OJ Struwig's father in law, C and Mrs I Aucamp's son.

Believers world wide

The senseless murder of Christians and a systematic persecution of the churches in the East. The churches in the GKSA are called upon to make prayer for the martyrs a priority.

2.2.2 Motions of improvement of health

Rev FJ van Dyk with health problems.

- 2.2.3 Motions of congratulations
 Rev LH Stavast, emeritus minister, with his 89th birthday, Sunday 11 January 2015.
 Rev Christiaan and Mrs Irma Jooste with the birth of a daughter.
 To all parents and grandparents whose children and grandchildren have passed Grade 12 in 2014.
 To Dr GJ Meijer and Rev AL Pelser – 25 years in the ministry.
 Dr GJ Meijer on his birthday 13 January 2015.
- 2.2.4 Motions of gratitude
 The Church Council of GK Harrismith, together with the community of Harrismith, to the SDDS, every congregation and/or member, who contributed in whichever way after the devastating fires.
- 2.3 *E-mails/Messages* (Art 9)
 Blessings from Dr J Visser.
 Message from the Sisters of GK Centurion.
 Message from Prof HGL Peels.
 Message from the Central Church Commission of the APK.

3. DAY OPENINGS

- 3.1 Wednesday, 7 January 2015 (Art 23)
 Rev SA Cilliers opens the day's proceedings by reading from Joh 14, leading in singing from Scriptural Hymn 8.1, and leading in prayer.
- 3.2 Thursday, 8 January 2015 (Art 75)
 Rev PM Modise opens the day's proceedings by reading from Galatians 3:23–4:7, leading in singing from Ps 18.1, and leading in prayer.
- 3.3 Friday, 9 January 2015 (Art 106)
 Rev JJ Cloete opens the day's proceedings by reading from Ps 57, leading in singing from Ps 33:5, 6, and leading in prayer.
- 3.4 Saturday, 10 January 2015 (Art 133)
 Rev JA Schutte opens the day's proceedings by reading from Ps 27, leading in singing from Ps 27:1, 6 and Woza Jesu Woza, and leading in prayer.
- 3.5 Monday, 12 January 2015 (Art 159)
 Rev MJ Smidt opens the day's proceedings by reading from Acts 17:10-12, leading in singing from Ps 40:4,5 and Lifela Tsa Sione 268.
- 3.6 Tuesday, 13 January 2015 (Art 204)
 Dr TC de Klerk opens the day's proceedings by reading from Joh 17:17–23 and leading in singing from Scriptural Hymn 15-1:1–4 as prayer.
- 3.7 Wednesday, 14 January 2015 (Art 241)
 Rev CD Jaftha opens the day's proceedings by reading from Zach 8, leading in prayer, and leading in singing from Now thank we all our God and "Zwo itwaho nga Tshilidzi".

4. DAY CLOSINGS

- 4.1 Wednesday, 7 January 2015 (Art 74)
 Rev OI Rooibaadjie closes the day with singing from Ps 93 and leading in prayer.
- 4.2 Thursday, 8 January 2015 (Art 105)
 Elder WHS Steinberg closes the day with singing from Ps 84:1 and 6, and leading in prayer.
- 4.3 Friday, 9 January 2015 (Art 132)
 Rev JE Franck closes the day by leading in prayer and singing from Scriptural Hymn 10-2.
- 4.4 Saturday, 10 January 2015 (Art 158)
 Elder PGW Jansen van Vuuren closes the meeting by leading in singing from Namhla ngiyaghutshw' umoya as well as Scriptural Hymn 14-2, and leading in prayer.
- 4.5 Tuesday, 13 January 2015 (Art 240)
 Elder GK Schuring closes the day's proceedings by leading in singing from Ps 122:1, 2, and leading in prayer.

- 4.6 Wednesday, 14 January 2015 (Art 265)
The chairperson, dr DG Breed, reads from Ephesians 1, direct a few relevant words, leads in prayer, and singing from Ps 43:3.

5. DAILY ATTENDANCE

- 5.1 Tuesday, 6 January 2015 (Art 16)
Revs CB Robinson, W Viljoen and Elder PWH Aucamp joins the meeting after which they stand at the request of the chairperson, dr DG Breed, to indicate their concurrence with the Public Declaration.
- 5.2 Wednesday, 7 January 2015 (Artt 24, 34, 73)
Revs JJJ Erasmus, SPJ Vermaak, FJ Potgieter, CJ Nagel (jr) and dr RM van der Merwe join the meeting after which they stand at request of the deputy-chairperson, Rev SD Snyman, to indicate their concurrence with the Public Declaration.
- 5.3 Thursday, 8 January 2015 (Artt 76, 77)
Rev J van Schaik joins the meeting after which he, at the request of the deputy-chairperson, Rev SD Snyman, to indicate his concurrence with the Public Declaration.
Excused: elder BG Kukkuk, rev SJMS Smit, dr J Lion-Cachet, rev N Boy and Elder G Schuring (9 and 10 Jan 2015), revs P Venter (9 Jan 2015), LP van Jaarsveld (10 Jan 2015), JJ de Kock (9 en 10 Jan 2015), elders D van Wyk (8-10 Jan 2015) and W Buys (9-10 Jan 2015), rev BC Robinson (10 Jan 2015), dr H Goede (10 Jan 2015). Elder J Buys (9-15 Jan 2015), Rev LJ Erasmus (9-10 Jan 2015). Elder J Hoogenboezem's mother passed away and he has already departed.
- 5.4 Friday, 9 January 2015 (Art 107)
Excused: revs HC van Rooy, G Opperman, elder BA Potgieter, revs CD Jaftha, PM Lekgetho (rev PM Mqokolo (sec) will attend in his place), PC van Rooy, prof JJ Janse van Rensburg, rev D van 't Zandt, elder J Malunga, rev J van Schaik, drs H Goede, AJ Kruger, elder PWH Aucamp. Also excused: Rev AL Pelsler (9 Jan 2015), dr P Fanoy (9 and 10 Jan 2015), rev FM Dreyer (10 Jan 2015), elder W Buys (9 Jan 2015), rev JG Noëth (12-14 Jan 2015), prof SP van der Walt (9 Jan 2015), elder D Noppe (10-14 Jan 2015), rev OL Moncho (9-11 Jan 2015), rev PL Mathebula (9-11 Jan 2015) and elder HAJ Oosthuizen (10 Jan 2015). Rev ED Pelele (12-14 Jan 2015). Dr GJ van Wyk takes the place of dr P Fanoy for 9 and 10 Jan 2015 and from 12-14 Jan 2015 the place of rev ED Pelele.
- 5.5 Monday, 12 January 2015 (Artt 160, 162, 171)
Elder J Breed joins the meeting where after he, at the request of the chairperson, dr DG Breed, indicates his concurrence with the Public Declaration by standing up. Elder RE Nghonyama from Regional Synod Bushveld joins the meeting as secundus in the place of elder PG Duvenage. At the request of the chairperson, dr DG Breed, he indicates his concurrence with the Public Declaration by standing up.
Excused: rev SFF van der Walt (12 Jan 2015, elders B van Wetten and R Muller (12-14 Jan 2015).
- 5.6 Tuesday, 13 January 2015 (Art 205)
Excused: Rev PJ de Bruyn (13-14 Jan 2015), elders TE Gxotani and SN Klaas.
- 5.7 Wednesday, 14 January 2015 (Art 242)
Excused: revs JH Venter (illness), DG Zwemstra, WJ Botha, TJ van Vuuren, PC van Rooy, JG van der Walt, EP Nel, FM Dreyer, dr SP van der Schyff; elders PWE Blom, AT Venter, J Lowings.

6. VISITORS

The following visitors are welcomed:
Dr PJ Buys (emeritus minister), professors TSP, foreign and national guests already present, as well as the media (Art 13).
Br W Spijker of the FRCA (Art 60).
Rev R Mabonga of the RPCA (Art 64).

Rev AH Reitsema as well as dr B de Vries from Mukhanyo Theological College (Art 161).

Dr L Duncan of the PCA (Art 182).

Rev JJ de Wet Kruger (emeritus minister) (Art 218).

7. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 7.1 The minutes of art 1 to art 22 are presented and approved (Art 69).
- 7.2 The minutes of art 23 to art 73 presented and approved (Art 104).
- 7.3 The minutes of art 74 to art 105 presented and approved (Art 131).
- 7.4 The minutes of art 106 to art 132 presented and approved (Art 163).
- 7.5 The minutes of art 132 to art 158 presented and approved (Art 207).
- 7.6 The minutes of art 159 to art 203 presented and approved (Art 243).
- 7.7 The minutes of art 204 to art 240 presented and approved (Art 252).
- 7.8 Art 241 to art 265 approved by Moderamen and signed (Art 265).