

14.2 REPORT 2: DEPUTIES BIBLE – BIBLE TRANSLATION (Art 90)

- A. Dr AJ Kruger tables the Report.
- B. The Report will be concluded during the Synod session.

C. REPORT

1. Mandate

(Acta 2009:98, 5.1.3.1, 5.1.3.2, 5.1.3.3)

- 1.1 Appointment of persons on the Advice Committee for Bible translation of the Bible Society.
- 1.2 Give cooperation in all matters related to the *Verdere Afrikaanse Vertaling* of the Bible.
- 1.3 The assignment of Synod 2000 is continued with regard to the God names JHWH and Adonai in the Old Testament, and this should receive continuous attention.

Decision: Points 1.1 to 1.3 noted.

2. Matters that the Synod take note of

- 2.1 The BSA undertakes **translation projects** when requested by churches. The following projects are currently underway:
 - 2.1.1 The more concordant **Afrikaans**, known as Die Bybel: 'n Direkte vertaling (DBV).
 - 2.1.1.1 A variety of people connected to the GKSA are, on different levels, participating in the project.
 - 2.1.1.2 According to the translation brief the different names of God are translated in a discernable way.
 - 2.1.1.3 The translation contains numerous footnotes to explain peculiarities in the text. It also contains a wordlist of important terms and words used in the translation.
 - 2.1.1.4 The work is done by teams that include exegetes, source language experts, language practitioners and literary fundi. The work is checked on numerous in an intensive translation process.
 - 2.1.1.5 In 2014 a proof edition containing the New Testament and Psalms was released. It is obtainable from the Bible Society at R35 each. This edition contains work done up to Phase 2 of the translation process.
 - 2.1.1.6 Readers representing the local churches are encouraged to participate in the revision process. Information about participating can be found at www.bybeldirektevertaling.co.za. All inputs on the text can be sent to Marno Retief at retief@biblesociety.co.za. These inputs will be handled in Phase 3 of the process. It should be clear that this is the phase where inputs from church societies will be considered in this phase.
 - 2.1.1.7 It is expected that the project will be finished approximately in 2018 and the GKSA will have to decide what the official use of the translation will be in the churches.
 - 2.1.1.8 The Deputies Bible sent a letter to the churches pertaining to the availability of the proof edition. In this letter congregations are asked to start with the informal evaluation of the translation.
 - 2.1.2 There is a new **isiZulu translation**. The leader of the project is prof Koos van Rooy.
 - 2.1.2.1 It is expected that Phase 1 will be completed during 2014.
 - 2.1.3 As a result of the popularity of Die Bybel vir Dowes a similar project was started in English (**Bible for the Deaf**). More information can be found at www.englishbibleforthe deaf.co.za

2.2 The Deputies Bible are responsible for the naming of members from the GKSA on the **Kerklike Advieskomitee vir die Bybel in Afrikaans** (KABA). This body convenes annually to give feedback to the BSA in matter pertaining to Afrikaans translations as deemed necessary by the churches using Afrikaans.

2.2.1 Currently the following people are named on the committee: Primi: Proffs HJN van Defenter, JJ J van Rensburg and PP Kruger. Secundi: Dr AJ Kruger, proffs HF van Rooy and CP van der Walt.

Decision: Points 2.1 to 2.2.1 noted.

3. Matters that the Synod decide on

3.1 *Die Bybel: 'n Direkte Vertaling.*

3.1.1 We pray the persons connected to this project will be blessed by our heavenly Father.

Decision: Approved and that the Synod will address letters of thanks to the persons who are involved in this project on behalf of the GKSA.

3.1.2 The Synod thanks the BSA for the resources, financially as well as time and energy that is dedicated to the project.

Decision: Approved.

3.1.3 The GKSA stays active in the process.

Decision: Approved.

3.1.4 Congregants in the church society are asked to participate in Phase 3 of the translation by giving inputs on the proof edition.

Decision: Approved.

3.1.5 The Synod names Deputies to start with a process of evaluating the translation, so that in 2018 (or as soon as the project is finished) an informed decision can be made about the official use of the translation. These Deputies must, inter alia, ensure that the translation was done in accordance to the brief that was given to the translators as well as specific issues that the GKSA want incorporated in a translation (for example, the names of God). It must also be checked for correctness.

Decision: Approved.

3.1.6 The Deputies must see to it that the brief pertaining to the names of God JHWH and Adonai in the Old Testament (Acta 2003:114, 5.3.5 and 6.1.3.4).

Decision: Approved.

3.1.7 The Deputies must enquire from the Bible Society regarding the possibility of parallel Bibles that provide an English translation as well as an indigenous black language.

Decision: Approved.

3.1.8 That the Synod address a letter of thanks to the Bible Society for the donation of copies of "Die Bybel: Direkte Vertaling" to the minister delegates.

Decision: Approved.

3.2 *The isiZulu Bible*

3.2.1 It's noted with thanks that the project is being done and we pray that the people participating in the project will be blessed.

Decision: Approved and that the Synod will address letters of thanks to the translators as well as prof JA van Rooy.

3.2.2 The GKSA stays committed to the work and helps in whichever way possible.

Decision: Approved.

3.3 *Naming on KABA*

3.3.1 The persons currently on the panel are nominated again with the Deputies Bible tasked to see to it that there will always be 3 representatives on the KABA.

Decision: Approved.