

15.5 REPORT 5: DIACONAL MATTERS – ASSISTANCE FUND (IN TERMS OF CO, ART 25) (Art 149)

- A. Rev MJ Erasmus tables the Report.
- B. The Report will be concluded during the Synod session.

C. REPORT

1. Mandate (Acta 2003:45, 2.1.8.1)

To provide assistance in the following ways to churches for assistance given to reverends who have, in terms of CO, art 12, 79 or 80, left the ministry before 1994: In respect of the Support Fund (Assistance Fund for deacons CO, art 25), handle the management, control and investment of available funds, request additional voluntary assistance if circumstances require it, introduce the Support Fund to all churches, create a positive attitude with members and deacons for the Fund and supply the Synod with guidelines for contributions to the fund for the next three years

Decision: Noted.

2. Matters that the Synod take note of

- 2.1 The Deputies have sent letters to the deacons in which the decisions of the National Synod of 1994 were communicated and the guideline of a voluntary contribution was emphasized. Meanwhile, the Deputies have assisted the deacons of three congregations with the care of CO, art 12, 79 or 80 ministers.
- 2.2 Letters have been addressed to the deacons of all the congregations to call on them to contribute to this cause with reference to the guideline of R10 per adult member.
- 2.3 Some deacons have heeded these requests, but the Deputies were necessitated to supplement this expense from the general allocations from time to time.

Decision: Points 2.1 to 2.3 noted.

3. Matters that the Synod decide on

Recommendation

- 3.1 That the Synod takes note of this Report.
- 3.2 The to-be-appointed Deputies continue with the assignment (pt 1).

Decision: Points 3.1 and 3.2 approved.