

16.13 REPORT 8: DEPUTIES ECUMENICITY ABROAD – SOUTH AFRICANS ABROAD DESK (Art 54)

- A. Rev HS Coetzee tables the Report.
- B. The Report will be concluded during the Synod session.

C. REPORT

Deputies responsible for this desk: Is considered administrative and referred to all desks.

For notice

1. Mandate

- 1.1 The various Deputies assigned to New Zealand, Australia, Canada and England are requested to address the membership of former GKSA members during their visits and in their correspondence with the different overseas churches and keep in contact with former GKSA ministers ministering in these countries.
- 1.2 The information on local congregations of the churches in the different countries that are in correspondence with the GKSA must be updated and expanded. It must also be loaded onto the GKSA's official website.
- 1.3 The member congregations of the GKSA are to be made aware that the information on churches abroad is available at the Administrative Bureau.

Decision: Points 1.1 to 1.3 noted.

2. Execution of the mandate

- 2.1 During visits to New Zealand, Australia, Canada and England the active participation of former GKSA members and other expatriate South Africans in churches there was discussed and an effort was made to meet with such individuals. Effort was also made to make contact with former GKSA ministers who are ministering in these countries.
- 2.2 Information on local congregations of churches in the different countries that are in correspondence with the GKSA was provided to congregations and members on the website and in church journals.

Decision: Points 2.1 and 2.2 noted.

For decision making

2.3 Recommendations

- 2.3.1 The Deputies for ecumenicity are to touch on the active participation of former Reformed members and other expatriate South Africans during their visits and in their correspondence with the different overseas churches (among which those in New Zealand, Australia, Canada and England) as well as remain in contact with former GKSA ministers that are ministering in these countries.
- 2.3.2 Information about local congregations of churches in the different countries that are in correspondence with the GKSA are to be expanded and updated on the GKSA's official website and local churches of the GKSA be made aware of such information.

Decision: Points 2.3.1 and 2.3.2 approved.