

19.6 REPORT 5: DEPUTIES CHRISTIAN EDUCATION – LIAISON WITH FOREIGN MEMBERS (Art 141)

- A. Dr DJ de Kock tables the Report.
- B. The Report will be concluded during the Synod session.

C. REPORT

1. Mandate

The to-be-appointed Deputies are to get in touch with members in our neighboring countries and monitor educational matters those countries, to give our members in neighboring countries exposure to the developments in Christian education (Acta 2012:230,3.1).

Decision: Noted.

2. Matters that the Synod take note of

2.1 *State of affairs regarding education in Namibia*

2.1.1 The Namibian government is Christian, and is relatively well disposed towards the church.

2.2 *Liaison that occurred in Namibia*

2.2.1 AROS on several occasions liaised with schools in Namibia and presented equipping opportunities to schools and teachers.

2.2.2 Mr Neil Prinsloo of VARS (*Vereniging vir Akademie Reformatoriese Studies*) Onderwys is in constant contact with AROS and in the process of marketing AROS's learning materials (textbooks), with permission (and according to him, in collaboration with AROS).

2.2.3 Mr Neil Prinsloo's calling has shifted. He is now CEO of FRESH and NAVCO (Namibiese Afrikaanse Vereniging vir Christelike Onderwys) (Neil's report:5). They are also working on "Namibianising" AROS's South African syllabus (eg. Mandela's history is replaced with Sam Nujoma's). But there are no schools that uses AROS's (VARS) syllabus as yet.

2.2.4 Unpublished appendix: Mr Neil Prinsloo's initiative to "Namibianize" AROS's material; as well as VARS's marketing plan.

2.3 *Liaison that occurred in Botswana*

2.3.1 Contact has been made with rev D Kotzee (Gobabis serves members in Ganzi), rev Jan and Beppie Wessels (now in the Netherlands), Willemien Le Roux, as well as some teachers.

2.4 *Challenges to overcome*

2.4.1 Admission of learners at international Universities: One of the problems with AROS and VARS's current curriculum is that it only provides learners with access to SA Universities. Most schools in Namibia use the IEB (Independent Education Board) syllabus.

2.4.2 AROS/VARS's material is designed for use with the 1953 translation of the Bible.

Decision: Points 2.1 to 2.4.2 noted.

3. Matters that the Synod decide on

3.1 The to-be-appointed Deputies continue to get in touch with members in our neighboring countries and monitor educational matters those countries, to give our members in neighboring countries exposure to the developments in Christian education.

Decision: Approved.