16.10 RAPPORT 4 – DEPUTATE EKUMENISITEIT BUITELANDS – DIE OOSTE (JAPAN, INDIË EN KOREA) (Art 121)

16.10 REPORT 4 – DEPUTIES ECUMENICITY INTERNATIONAL – THE EAST (JAPAN, INDIA AND KOREA) (Art 121)

A. Ds ASA de Bruyn stel die Rapport.
Rev. ASA de Bruyn tables the Report.
B. Die Rapport word staande die Sinode afgehandel.
The Report is concluded while the Synod is in session.

C. **RAPPORT / REPORT**

Deputate verantwoordelik vir die lessenaar:	**Deputies appointed to this desk:**
Japan en Korea – Prof SP van der Walt(s) en prof HG Stoker.	**Japan and Korea** – Prof SP van der Walt(c) and Prof HG Stoker.
Indië – Ds HJP de Beer(s), ds GP van Rhyn en prof HG Stoker.	**India** – Rev. HJP de Beer(c), Rev. GP van Rhyn and Prof HG Stoker.
1. Reformed Church Japan (RCJ)	**1. Reformed Church Japan (RCJ)**
Ekumeniese eenheid	Ecumenical Unity
1.1 *Opdrag*	1.1 *Mandate*
1.1.1 Dat met dankbaarheid kennis geneem word van die bestaande ekumeniese eenheid tussen die GKSA en RCJ.	1.1.1 Note is to be taken, with thanks, of the ecumenical unity between the GKSA and RCJ.
1.1.2 Dat die eenheid onderhou en verder uitgebou word, onder andere deur wedersydse besoeke van Deputate en deur samewerking op praktiese vlak.	1.1.2 This unity is to be sustained and bolstered by *inter alia* mutual visits by Deputies and cooperation on a practical level.
1.1.3 Die Deputate wag die eksegetiese dokumentasie oor die RCJ se besluit oor vroue se toelating tot die dienste af.	1.1.3 The Deputies are awaiting exegetical documentation about the RCJ's decision over women's admission to the offices.
1.1.4 Die Deputate kontinueer gesprekke met Missie Japan met die doel om konkreet en funksioneel by die strukture van Missie Japan betrokke te word en betrokke te raak.	1.1.4 The Deputies are to continue discussions with Mission Japan (MJ) with the aim to engage concretely and practically with the structures of Mission Japan.
1.1.5 Die Deputate verdiskonteer alle relevante kerkregtelike beginsels vir die GKSA se betrokkenheid by MJ en handel die opdrag binne die raamwerk van ons Kerkorde af.	1.1.5 The Deputies are to consider all the relevant church principles for GKSA's engagement with MJ and to complete all tasks within the framework of the GKSA's church order.
Besluit: Punte 1.1.1 tot 1.1.5 kennis geneem.	**Decision: Points 1.1.1 to 1.1.5 noted.**
Sake waarvan die Sinode kennis neem	*Matters that the Synod takes note of*
1.2 *Uitvoering van die opdrag*	1.2 *Fulfilment of the task*
1.2.1 Vanweë die Covid-19-pandemie kon geen besoeke vanaf die vorige Sinode afgelê word nie.	1.2.1 Due to the Covid-19 pandemic no visits could be made to RCJ since the previous Synod.
1.2.2 Die RCJ het nie gereageer op versoeke vir die eksegetiese	1.2.2 The RCJ did not respond to requests for exegetical documentation on the

dokumentasie oor die RCJ se besluit oor vroue se toelating tot die dienste nie. Sover vasgestel kon word, het daar ook nie besware gedien nadat die RCJ die besluit in 2014 geneem het nie. Te verstane is baie van hulle dokumentasie slegs in Japannees beskikbaar. Vanweë die taalgaping geskied kommunikasie deur middel van e-pos korrespondensie uiters moeilik en is dit nie bevorderlik om standpunte op so 'n wyse te beredeneer nie. In-persoon gesprekke sal die doel beter kan dien.	RCJ decision over women's admission to the offices. As far as can be determined, no objections were raised after this decision by the RCJ in 2014. Understandably much of their documentation is only available in Japanese. Due to this language barrier, communication via e-mail is quite difficult and arguing such matters would not be fruitful. Face-to-face discussion would serve this purpose better.
1.2.3 Die GKSA het volledig ingeskakel by Missie Japan en het die afgelope jare as 'n vennoot in die werksaamhede en vergaderings van Missie Japan gefunksioneer. Hierdie noue bande met Missie Japan maak andersyds ook deure oop na skakeling met die Kobe Theological Seminary waar dr Stéphan van der Watt as sendeling van Missie Japan (en as dosent) werksaam is.	1.2.3 The GKSA fully participates in Mission Japan and have over the past three years become a partner in all the work and meetings of Mission Japan. Close ties with Mission Japan opens doors to contact with Kobe Theological Seminary where dr Stéphan van der Watt is a missionary (and lecturer) as part of Mission Japan.
Besluit: Punte 1.2.1 tot 1.2.3 kennis geneem.	**Decision: Points 1.2.1 to 1.2.3 noted.**
<u>*Sake waaroor die Sinode besluit*</u>	<u>*Matters that the Synod decides on*</u>
1.3 *Aanbevelings (Opdragte aan te benoeme Deputate)*	1.3 *Recommendations (Mandate to the to be appointed Deputies)*
1.3.1 Die huidige kerklike bande word vir eers in stand gehou.	1.3.1 Current ties are to be maintained for now.
1.3.2 Die GKSA vaardig 'n Deputaat/Deputate af om so gou moontlik 'n besoek aan die RCJ af te lê om hulle besluit oor die toelating van vroue tot ouderling en predikant eerstehands te bespreek.	1.3.2 The GKSA are to send a Deputy/Deputies on a visit to RCJ as soon as possible to discuss the matter of women's admission to the offices of elder and minister in person.
1.3.3 Die GKSA se betrokkenheid by Missie Japan word gekontinueer.	1.3.3 The GKSA's engagement with Mission Japan is to continue.
Besluit: Punte 1.3.1 tot 1.3.3 goedgekeur.	**Decision: Points 1.3.1 to 1.3.3 approved.**
2. Indië – Reformed Presbyterian Church of Indië (RPCI) en Presbyterian Free Church(PFC(CI))	**2. India – Reformed Presbyterian Church of India (RPCI) and Presbyterian Free Church (PFC(CI))**
Ekumeniese bande	Ecumenical Ties
2.1 *Opdrag*	2.1 *Mandate*
2.1.1 Dat die Sinode met dank kennis neem van die besluit van die RPCI en dat die GKSA oorgaan van ekumeniese kontak tot ekumeniese bande met die RPCI.	2.1.1 The Synod is to take note, with thanks, of the RPCI's decision and that the GKSA is to progress from ecumenical contact to ecumenical ties with the RPCI.
2.1.2 Dat die Sinode met dank kennis neem van die besluit van die PFC	2.1.2 The Synod is to take note, with thanks, of the PFC (CI)'s decision and that the

(CI) en dat die GKSA oorgaan van ekumeniese kontak na ekumeniese bande met die PFC (CI).	GKSA is to progress from ecumenical contact to ecumenical ties with the PFC (CI).
2.1.3 Dat die werk wat ds Kumar as predikant van die GK Rietvallei steeds ondersteun word in die uitbouing van die Gereformeerde Kerk in Indië.	2.1.3 Support for the work of Rev Kumar, minister of GK Rietvallei, related to the growth of the Reformed church in India is to continue.
Besluit: Punte 2.1.1 tot 2.1.3 kennis geneem.	**Decision: Points 2.1.1 to 2.1.3 approved.**
Sake waarvan die Sinode kennis neem	*Matters that the Synod takes note of*
2.2 *Uitvoering van opdrag*	2.2 *Fulfilment of task*
2.2.1 Geen formele kontak het tussen die GKSA en die RPCI of PFC (CI) sedert die vorige Sinode plaasgevind nie.	2.2.1 No formal contact has occurred between the GKSA and RPCI or PFC (CI) since the previous Synod.
2.2.2 Die werk van ds Kumar as predikant van die GK Rietvallei in die uitbouing van die Gereformeerde Kerk in Indië, is wel op toepaslik wyse ondersteun.	2.2.2 Support for the work of Rev Kumar, minister of GK Rietvallei, related to the growth of the Reformed Church in India has however continued.
Besluit: Punte 2.2.1 en 2.2.2 kennis geneem.	**Decision: Points 2.2.1 and 2.2.2 noted.**
Sake waaroor die Sinode moet besluit	*Matters that the Synod decides on*
2.3 *Aanbevelings (Opdragte aan te benoeme Deputate)*	2.3 *Recommendations (Mandate to the to be appointed Deputies)*
2.3.1 Dat die ekumeniese bande met die RPCI en die PFC(CI) onderhou en uitgebou word.	2.3.1 Ecumenical ties with the RPCI and PFC(CI) are to be maintained and promoted.
2.3.2 Dat die werk wat ds Kumar as predikant van die GK Rietvallei in die uitbouing van die Gereformeerde Kerk in Indië steeds ondersteun word.	2.3.2 Support for the work of Rev Kumar, minister of GK Rietvallei, related to the growth of the Reformed Church in India is to continue.
2.3.3 Dat een kontakbesoek te Indië in die tydperk tot die volgende GKSA Sinode deur een of meer Deputate van die GKSA sal plaasvind om die ekumeniese bande met die RPCI en die FC (CI) te onderhou en uit te bou.	2.3.3 One face-to-face visit to India is to be made during the term leading up to the next GKSA Synod by one or more GKSA Deputies to maintain and promote ecumenical ties with the RPCI and PFC (CI).
2.3.4 Dat tydens hierdie kontakbesoek tyd ingeruim sal word om ds Kumar in sy uitbouing van die Gereformeerde Kerk in Indië te ondersteun.	2.3.4 Time is to be made during this visit to support Rev Kumar in his work toward the growth of the Reformed Church in India.
Besluit: Punte 2.3.1 tot 2.3.4 goedgekeur.	**Decision: Points 2.3.1 to 2.3.4 approved.**
3. Kosin Presbyterian Church of Korea (KPCK)	**3. Kosin Presbyterian Church of Korea (KPCK)**
Ekumeniese eenheid	Ecumenical Unity
3.1 *Opdrag*	3.1 *Mandate*
3.1.1 Aan die te benoeme Deputate word opgedra om Ekumeniese eenheid met die KPCK te herbevestig en uit te bou.	3.1.1 The to be appointed Deputies are to confirm and promote ecumenical unity with the KPCK.
3.1.2 Die te benoeme Ddeputate kry opdrag om voort te gaan om nagraadse studente te nooi uit die	3.1.2 The to be appointed Deputies are to continue inviting post-graduate students from the Kosin churches to

Kosin Kerke om in Potchefstroom te kom studeer. Die aangeleentheid moet in samewerking met die Teologiese Skool en Fakulteit Teologie hanteer word.	undertake studies in Potchefstroom. This matter is to be undertaken in collaboration with the Theological School and Faculty of Theology.
3.1.3 Die te benoeme Deputate kry opdrag om die sendingwerk deur die KPCK in Suid-Afrika te monitor en hieroor met die KPCK in gesprek te bly.	3.1.3 The to be appointed Deputies are to monitor KPCK's missionary work in South Africa and remain in contact with KPCK in this regard.
3.1.4 Daar word in die volgende termyn van die Deputate se werksaamhede weer 'n Deputaat afgevaardig om 'n Sinode van die KPCK by te woon.	3.1.4 During the next term a delegate of the Deputies is to attend the Synod of the KPCK.
Besluit: Punte 3.1.1 tot 3.1.4 kennis geneem.	**Decision: Points 3.1.1 to 3.1.4 noted.**
Sake waarvan die Sinode kennis neem	*Matters that the Synod takes note of*
3.2 *Uitvoering van opdrag*	3.2 *Fulfilment of task*
3.2.1 Vanweë die Covid-19-pandemie kon geen besoeke vanaf die vorige Sinode afgelê word nie.	3.2.1 Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, no visits could occur since the previous Synod.
3.2.2 Die Deputaat is egter telkens genooi om 'n groeteboodskap per video op te neem en deur te stuur vir uitsending tydens die KPCK se (virtuele) Sinodes. Dit is verblydend dat die KPCK in hierdie moeilike afgelope jare telkens kontak gemaak het in hierdie verband en dit getuig van die goeie gesindhede jeens mekaar.	3.2.2 This Deputy was however often invited to convey greetings on video for transmission during the KPCK's (virtual) Synods. It is heartening that the KPCK has maintained contact during the past difficult years, which bears testimony of the positive relationship between the KPCK and GKSA.
3.2.3 In die groeteboodskappe is telkens weer uitnodigings gerig aan voornemende nagraadse studente van die KPCK om in Potchefstroom te kom studeer.	3.2.3 Greetings to the KPCK repeated the invitation to post-graduate students to continue their studies in Potchefstroom.
Besluite: Punte 3.2.1 tot 3.2.3 kennis geneem.	**Decision: Points 3.2.1 to 3.2.3 noted.**
Sake waaroor die Sinode besluit	*Matters that the Synod decides on*
3.3 *Aanbevelings (Opdragte aan te benoeme Deputate)*	3.3 *Recommendations (Mandate to the to be appointed Deputies)*
3.3.1 Hartlike kerklike eenheid met die Kosin Presbyterian Churches in Korea word herbevestig en gekontinueer.	3.3.1 Sincere church unity with the Kosin Presbyterian Churches in Korea is to be reconfirmed and continued.
3.3.2 Die GKSA vaardig 'n Deputaat af om gedurende die volgende termyn 'n Sinode van die KPCK by te woon.	3.3.2 The GKSA is to send a delegate to the next Synod of the KPCK.
Besluit: Punte 3.3.1 en 3.3.2 goedgekeur.	**Decision: Points 3.3.1 and 3.3.2 approved.**
4. Independent Reformed Churches in Korea (IRCK)	**4. Independent Reformed Churches in Korea (IRCK)**
Ekumeniese kontak	Ecumenical Contact
4.1 *Opdrag*	4.1 *Mandate*
4.1.1 Kontak word met die IRCK behou.	4.1.1 Contact with the IRCK is to be maintained.
Besluit: Kennis geneem.	**Decision: Noted.**

Sake waarvan die Sinode kennis neem	*Matters that the Synod takes note of*
4.2 *Uitvoering van opdrag*	4.2 *Fulfilment of task*
4.2.1 Vanweë die Covid-19-pandemie kon geen besoeke vanaf die vorige Sinode afgelê word nie.	4.2.1 No visits were made due to the Covid-19 pandemic.
Besluit: Kennis geneem.	**Decision: Noted.**
Sake waaroor die Sinode besluit	*Matters that the Synod decides on*
4.3 *Aanbeveling (Opdragte aan te benoeme Deputate)*	4.3 *Recommendations (Mandate to the to be appointed Deputies)*
4.3.1 Tensy geen kontak in die komende termyn opgeneem kan word nie, word daar van hierdie kontak afgestap.	4.3.1 If no contact is made during the coming term, contact is to be terminated.
Besluit: Goedgekeur.	**Decision: Approved.**
5. Hapdong Presbyterian Churches Korea (Hapdong)	**5. Hapdong Presbyterian Churches Korea (Hapdong)**
Ekumeniese kontak	Ecumenical Contact
5.1 *Opdrag*	5.1 *Mandate*
5.1.1 Hierdie is ‘n nuwe kontak wat in die interim tydperk tussen Sinodes aangegaan is. (Vgl. besluit 2.3.1, Acta 2018:333: Ekumeniese kontak wat tot die erkenning van ekumeniese bande en eenheid kan lei, word gemaak met kerke met wie die GKSA een is in leer, diens en tug (KO, art 85)).	5.1.1 This is a new undertaking that occurred in between Synods (cf. decision 2.3.1, Acta 2018:333: Ecumenical contact that could lead to the confirmation of ecumenical ties and unity are made with churches similar in doctrine, service and discipline as the GKSA (CO, art 85)).
Besluit: Kennis geneem.	**Decision: Noted.**
Sake waarvan die Sinode kennis neem	*Matters that the Synod takes note of*
5.2 *Uitvoering van opdrag*	5.2 *Fulfilment of task*
5.2.1 Deputate van die GKSA het die General Assembly van Hapdong Presbyterian Churches Korea (Hapdong) vanaf 22–26 September 2019 in Seoul bygewoon.	5.2.1 GKSA Deputies attended the General Assembly of Hapdong Presbyterian Churches Korea (Hapdong) in Seoul from 22–26 September 2019.
5.2.2 Die Hapdong Presbyterian Churches in Korea bestaan reeds vir 130 jaar en is die grootste Presbiteriaanse denominasie in Suid-Korea met ‘n lidmaattal van nagenoeg 3 miljoen, ongeveer 12 000 gemeentes en 50 000 predikante. Die getal sendelinge oor die wêreld is ongeveer 2 000, waarvan 29 in Suid-Afrika werksaam is. Sendingwerk word gekoördineer deur ‘n Global Mission Society (GMS). Hulle beskik ook oor WRF lidmaatskap. Hulle verskillende vlakke van ekumeniese verhoudings is (1) General, (2) Missional en (3) Companionship.	5.2.2 The Hapdong Presbyterian Churches in Korea have existed for 130 years and is the largest Presbyterian denomination in South Korea with a membership of approximately 3 million, 12 000 congregations and 50 000 ministers. They have 2 000 missionaries across the world, of which 29 are working in South Africa. This missionary work is coordinated by a Global Mission Society (GMS). They are members of WRF. They have different levels of ecumenical outreach, namely: (1) General, (2) Missional and (3) Companionship.
5.2.3 Goeie gesprekke is gevoer oor (1) ekumeniese bande en (2) teologiese opleiding in Suid-Afrika.	5.2.3 Fruitful discussion occurred over: (1) ecumenical ties and (2) theological training in South Africa.
5.2.4 Tydens hierdie gesprekke het dit	5.2.4 During such discussions it once again

weereens duidelik geblyk dat daar nie wesenlike teologiese kwessies is wat in die weg staan van bande tussen die GKSA en die Hap Dong Presbyterian Churches nie.	became clear that there are no significant theological issues hindering ties between the GKSA and the Hap Dong Presbyterian Churches.
5.2.5 Die Hapdong Kerke stel ook belang om betrokke te raak by sendingwerk / teologiese opleiding in Suid-Afrika. Hiervoor moet hulle eers goedkeuring kry by hulle Global Mission Society.	5.2.5 The Hapdong churches are also interested in becoming involved in missionary work / theological training in South Africa but will first have to obtain approval from their Global Mission Society.
5.2.6 Die Deputate het die geleentheid gehad om 'n groeteboodskap namens die GKSA aan die volle vergadering te bring.	5.2.6 The Deputies had the opportunity to convey greetings from the GKSA to the entire assembly.
Besluit: Punte 5.2.1 tot 5.2.6 kennis geneem.	**Decision: Points 5.2.1 to 5.2.6 noted.**
<u>*Sake waaroor die Sinode besluit*</u>	<u>*Matters that the Synod decides on*</u>
5.3 *Aanbeveling (Opdragte aan te benoeme Deputate)*	5.3 *Recommendations (Mandate to the to be appointed Deputies)*
5.3.1 Dat die GKSA vlak twee (ekumeniese bande) met die Hapdong kerke aangaan.	5.3.1 The GKSA is to establish ecumenical ties with the Hapdong churches.
5.3.2 Die GKSA vaardig 'n Deputaat af om gedurende die volgende termyn 'n Sinode van die HPCK by te woon met die oog op moontlike ekumeniese eenheid.	5.3.2 The GKSA is to send a delegate to the next synod of the HPCK with the aim of possible ecumenical unity.
Besluit: Punte 5.3.1 en 5.3.2 goedgekeur.	**Decision: Points 5.3.1 and 5.3.2 approved.**