24.3 RAPPORT 3: KURATORE TEOLOGIESE SKOOL POTCHEFSTROOM – DIE TOEKOMS VAN TEOLOGIESE OPLEIDING EN DIE OPRIGTING VAN DIE GEREFORMEERDE TEOLOGIESE AKADEMIE NWO (Artt 60, 202)

24.3 REPORT 3: CURATORS THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL POTCHEFSTROOM – THE FUTURE OF THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE REFORMED THEOLOGICAL ACADAMY NPC (Arts 60, 202)

A. Prof RM Britz hou die Rapport voor deur middel van ‘n visuele aanbieding.
Prof RM Britz presents the Report by way of a visual presentation.
B. Geleentheid word gegee vir inligtingsvrae.
Opportunity is given for questions of information.
C. **Besluit:** Die Rapport word verwys na Kommissie Teologiese Skool.
Decision: The Report is referred to the Commission Theological School.
D. Ds TJ van Vuuren rapporteer namens Kommissie Teologiese Skool
Rev. TJ van Vuuren reports on behalf of Commission Theological School.
E. Geleentheid word gegee vir inligtingsvrae.
Opportunity is given for questions of information.
F. Die vergadering sing Psalm 18:1, 14.
The assembly sings Psalm 18:1, 14.
G. ‘n Besondere woord van dank word teenoor prof RM Britz gespreek.
A special word of thanks is expressed to Prof RM Britz.

H. **RAPPORT / REPORT**

1. Opdrag Algemene Sinode 2018 (Acta:1005, pt 2.1) besluit: 2.1.1 Dat die Kuratore van 2018-2021 opdrag ontvang om 2.1.1.1 Die onderhandelinge met die Universiteit in ooreenstemming met die Ooreenkoms en in die lig van die Rapport van die Kuratore en Sinodebesluite hieroor voort te sit. 2.1.1.2 Volgens die regulasies van die Raad vir Hoër Onderwys (CHE) die noodsaak vas te stel van die registrasie van ‘n hoër onderwys-instelling. 2.1.1.3 Die Kuratore wat met die saak gemoeid was (2015-2018) by die saak te betrek ten einde kontinuïteit te verseker. 2.2 Om al die nodige finansiële en ander middele beskikbaar te stel om die Kuratore in staat te stel om die bestaande Ooreenkoms met die NWU te handhaaf of spesifieke punte van die Ooreenkoms nuut te onderhandel vir goedkeuring deur die volgende Sinode. 2.3 Dat die Kuratore opdrag ontvang om	**1. Mandate** General Synod 2018 (Acta 2018:1005, pt 2.1) decides: 2.1.1 that the Curators for 2018-2021 are instructed to: 2.1.1.1 continue negotiations with the NWU in accordance with the Agreement and in light of the Curators’ report and Synod decisions 2.1.1.2 determine the need, according to the regulations of the Council for Higher Education (CHE), for the registration of a higher education institution and 2.1.1.3 involve the Curators previously tasked with the matter (2015-2018) in order to ensure continuity. 2.2 to make all necessary financial and other resources available to the Curators to enable them to uphold the existing Agreement with the NWU or to renegotiate specific items of the Agreement for approval by the Synod; and 2.3 to instruct the Curators to continually

deurlopend alle moontlikhede te ondersoek om die Gereformeerde opleiding van kandidaatstudente te verseker.	investigate ways of ensuring the Reformed training of candidate students.
2. Sake waarvan die Sinode kennis neem	**2. Matters that the Synod takes note of**
2.1 *Agtergrond* Die besluit van die Raad van Noordwes-Universiteit op 16 Maart 2017 om die 2006-Ooreenkoms grondig te hersien, het reeds bevestig dat niks minder nie as ‘n nuwe ooreenkoms tussen die GKSA en die Universiteit daargestel moes word. Die bedeling sedert 1945 sou iets van die verlede wees. Dit is bevestig in die amptelike skrywe van die NWU (gedateer 5 Junie 2019). Daarin het die NWU die ononderhandelbare voorwaardes aan die GKSA duidelik uitgespel. Die aanstelling van dosente in die Fakulteit Teologie sou voortaan slegs deur die NWU gemaak word. Hierbenewens is die inhoud en onderrig van die kurrikulum uitsluitlik die verantwoordelikheid van die Universiteit. Die GKSA sou op hierdie twee sake dus geen verdere inspraak hê nie (Raadpleeg Rapport 2: *Ooreenkoms Noordwes-Universiteit en die Gereformeerde Kerke in Suid-Afrika* vir besonderhede). Dit het aan die uitvoering van die 2018 Algemene Sinode-besluit ‘n besondere en onontwykbare *konteks* gegee.	2.1 *Background* The decision of the Council of North-West University on 16 March 2017 to thoroughly review the 2006 Agreement, evidently indicated that nothing less than a new agreement between the Reformed Churches in South Africa (GKSA) and the University had to be established. The dispensation since 1945 would expire. This was confirmed by the official letter from the NWU (dated 5 June 2019). The letter explicated the University’s non-negotiable conditions to the GKSA. The appointment of lecturers in the Faculty of Theology would henceforth be the exclusive responsibility of NWU. In addition, the University would be accountable for the content and teaching of the curriculum. The GKSA would, consequently, have no further authority or say in these two matters (Consult Report 2: *Agreement North-West University and the Reformed Churches in South Africa* for details). This gave the execution of the 2018 General Synod decision a distinct and unavoidable *context*.
Reeds in 2017 was dit vir die vorige Kuratorium dus duidelik dat die basiese vereistes wat die GKSA nog altyd aan die Universiteit (PU vir CHO en NWU) gestel het, met die Raad se Maart 2017-besluit nie net in die gedrang gekom het nie, maar herroep sou word. Gedurende Oktober 2017 het ‘n Kommissie van die Kuratorium dienooreenkomstig die Departement van Hoër Onderwys en Opleiding besoek ten einde die voorwaardes vas te stel vir die oprigting van ‘n eie GKSA teologiese opleidingsinstelling. Die Departement het bevestig dat volgens die *Hoër Onderwys Wet* (Wet 101 van 1997) elkeen wat beoog om opleiding aan te bied, ‘n regspersoon vir dié doel	Already in 2017, the previous Curatorium perceived that the fundamental conditions agreed to in the past by the University (PU for CHE and NWU), were not only compromised by the Council's March 2017 decision, but that they would indeed be revoked. In October 2017 a commission of the Curatorium hence paid a visit to the Department of Higher Education and Training to determine the conditions for the establishment of a GKSA theological training institution. The Department confirmed that, according to the *Higher Education Act* (Act 101 of 1997), anyone intending to offer education in the private sector, has to register a legal entity for that purpose and then register with the Department as a Private Higher Education Institution.

moet oprig en dan by die Departement as ‘n Privaat Hoër Onderwys Instelling registreer. Die programme wat aangebied word, moet deur die Raad op Hoër Onderwys geakkrediteer word. Die Suid-Afrikaanse Kwalifikasies Outoriteit moet eweneens die kwalifikasies op die Nasionale Kwalifikasies Raamwerk registreer.	The programmes offered must be accredited by the Council of Higher Education. The South African Qualifications Authority must also register the qualifications on the National Qualifications Framework.
Die terme en voorwaardes wat die NWU gestel het ten opsigte van ‘n nuwe ooreenkoms tussen die Universiteit en die GKSA, het meegebring dat die Kuratorium noukeurig moes gevolg gee aan 2.1.1.2, 2.1.1.3 en 2.3 van die besluit van die Algemene Sinode 2018. Die Kuratorium moes alles in sy vermoë doen om die gereformeerde opleiding van kandidate vir die Woordbediening in die GKSA te verseker.	The terms and conditions presented by NWU in respect of a new agreement between the University and the GKSA compelled the Curators to cautiously implement 2.1.1.2, 2.1.1.3 and 2.3 of the decision of the General Synod 2018. The Curators had to employ all the means in their power to ensure the continuation of reformed education of candidates for the Ministry of the Word in the GKSA.
2.2 *Uitgangspunt van die Kuratorium* In die behartiging van die belange van die Teologiese Skool, en in die voortdurende voorsiening van teologiese opleiding, is die uitgangspunt van die Kuratorium in drie punte vervat: • Alles wat gedoen en besluit word, moet ooreenstem met God se Woord, die Drie Formuliere van Eenheid, die Kerkorde en besluite van Nasionale/Algemene Sinodes van die GKSA wat op die Teologiese Skool van toepassing is. • Studente moet opgelei word deur teologiese professore wat deur die kerke beroep is (KO, artt 4 & 18) en onder toesig van die Kuratorium staan. • Studente moet opgelei word volgens ’n kurrikulum wat deur die beroepe professore vasgestel is en waaroor die Kuratorium toesig hou. In die lig hiervan het die Kuratorium die “noodsaak” vasgestel vir “die registrasie van ‘n hoër onderwys-instelling” en “deurlopend *alle moontlikhede … ondersoek* om die gereformeerde opleiding van kandidaatstudente te verseker”.	2.2 *Point of departure of the Curators* In safeguarding the interests of the Theological School, and in the continuous provision of theological training, the point of departure of the Curatorium comprised three aspects: • All done and decided must be consistent with God's Word, the Three Forms of Unity, the Church Order and decisions of National/General Synods of the GKSA that apply to the Theological School. • Students must be trained by theological professors called by the churches (CO, arts 4 & 18), and who teach under the supervision of the Curatorium. • Students must be trained according to a curriculum established by the theological professors and overseen by the Curators. Within this framework, the Curatorium determined the "need" for "the registration of a higher education institution" and "to continually investigate ways of ensuring the Reformed training of candidate students”.
2.3 *Vier moontlikhede* Die Kuratorium het vier moontlikhede	2.3 *Four possibilities* The Curatorium identified and

geïdentifiseer en oorweeg waarvolgens die gereformeerde opleiding van kandidaatstudente in die toekoms verseker kan word. Hulle is:

2.3.1 Teologiese Fakulteit NWU

Die nuwe ooreenkoms tussen die GKSA en die NWU bevestig dat die Fakulteit Teologie nie meer aan die vereistes van die GKSA kan voldoen nie (kyk Rapport 2, *Ooreenkoms Noordwes-Universiteit en die Gereformeerde Kerke in Suid-Afrika,* pt 2.2 vir besonderhede).

2.3.2 Inskakeling by 'n bestaande Privaat Hoër Onderwys Instelling in die RSA

Al 22 Privaat Hoër Onderwys Instellings wat teologiese kwalifikasies aanbied is in hierdie verband deeglik oorweeg. Hulle statute, beleide, konfessionele standpunte, grondslae, missie en visie, sowel as kurrikulums is diepgaande geanaliseer. Die ondersoek het die volgende instellings ingesluit: South African Theological Seminary (Johannesburg); Evangelical Seminary of Southern Africa (Pietermaritzburg); Auckland Park Theological Seminary (AGS); College of Transfiguration (Anglikaans, Grahamstad); Seth Mokitimi Methodist Seminary (Pietermaritzburg); St John Vianney Seminary (Katoliek, Pretoria), St Joseph's Theological Institute (Katoliek, Pietermaritzburg); Mukhanyo Theological College (Pretoria); Bible Institute of South Africa (Kalkbaai); George Whitfield College (Muizenberg); AP Akademie (Pretoria) en Hugenote College (Wellington).

2.3.2.1 Bevindinge

Die volgende bevindinge is gemaak: Al die instellings is uiteraard verbind aan konfessionele oortuigings, statutêre regulasies, kerklike gemeenskappe en Aktes van Oprigting. Die statutêre bevoegdhede, insluitende kurrikulums, ens., van Privaat Hoër Onderwys Instellings met 'n beduidende gereformeerde inslag en uitgangspunt, maak inskakeling

considered four possibilities according to which the reformed education of candidate students would be ensured in future. These are:

2.3.1 Faculty of Theology NWU

The new agreement between the GKSA and the NWU confirms that the Faculty of Theology can no longer meet the conditions set by the GKSA (See Report 2, *Agreement North-West University and the Reformed Churches in South Africa*, pt 2.2 for details).

2.3.2 Utilising an existing Private Higher Education Institution in the RSA

All 22 Private Higher Education Institutions offering theological qualifications were thoroughly considered. Their statutes, policies, confessional positions, foundations, mission and vision, as well as curricula were analyzed in depth. The investigation included the following institutions: South African Theological Seminary (Johannesburg); Evangelical Seminary of Southern Africa (Pietermaritzburg); Auckland Park Theological Seminary (AFM); College of Transfiguration (Anglican, Grahamstown); Seth Mokitimi Methodist Seminary (Pietermaritzburg); St John Vianney Seminary (Catholic, Pretoria), St Joseph's Theological Institute (Catholic, Pietermaritzburg); Mukhanyo Theological College (Pretoria); Bible Institute of South Africa (Kalk Bay); George Whitfield College (Muizenberg); AP Academy (Pretoria) and Huguenot College (Wellington).

2.3.2.1 Findings

The following findings were made: All the institutions are aligned to confessional beliefs, statutory regulations, church communities and conditions of Incorporation. The statutory powers, including curricula, etc., of Private Higher Education Institutions of significant reformed incline and orientation present challenges regarding integration. However, corporation in future is

problematies, maar samewerking in die toekoms wenslik.	desirable.
2.3.3 <u>Inskakeling by 'n buitelandse instelling</u> Indien 'n buitelandse instelling van Gereformeerde belydenis besluit om 'n kampus in Suid-Afrika op te rig en kwalifikasies aan te bied, vereis die *Hoër Onderwys Wet* dat die instelling by die Departement Hoër Onderwys moet registreer, en dat al die kwalifikasies eweneens by die Raad van Hoër Onderwys ingedien moet word met die oog op akkreditasie. Dit beteken ook dat die buitelandse akkreditasieowerheid van die instelling, toestemming sal moet gee vir Suid-Afrikaanse akkreditasie. Die Kuratorium het ook kennis geneem van die moontlikheid dat, nadat GKSA studente in Suid-Afrika ten minste 'n drie-jarige graadkursus, insluitende Grieks, Hebreeus en Aramees, deurloop het, daar wel in Kanada en die VSA geleenthede bestaan om vir 'n teologiese kursus (4 jaar) by gereformeerde instellings in te skryf.	2.3.3 <u>Engagement with a foreign institution</u> If a foreign institution of reformed confession should decide to establish a campus in South Africa and offer qualifications, the *Higher Education Act* (Act 101 of 1997) requires that the institution must register with the Department of Higher Education and that all the qualifications must also be accredited by the Council of Higher Education. This implies that the institution's accreditation authority will have to give permission for South African accreditation. The Curators also took note of the possibility that after GKSA students in South Africa have completed at least a three-year degree course, including Greek, Hebrew and Aramaic, couls enroll for theological education at a foreign reformed institution, e.g. in Canada and the USA.
2.3.3.1 Bevindinge Die Kuratorium het bevind dat die moontlikhede om by 'n buitelandse Gereformeerde instelling in te skakel, 'n opsie is wat opgevolg kan word as daar geen ander weg meer moontlik is nie.	2.3.3.1 Findings The Curators decided that the possibility of utilising a foreign reformed institution is an option that could be pursued if no other ways are achievable.
2.3.4 <u>Die oprigting van 'n Privaat Hoër Onderwys Instelling</u> Die vierde moontlikheid wat die Kuratorium oorweeg het, is die oprigting van 'n eie Privaat Hoër Onderwys Instelling.	2.3.4 <u>The establishment of a Private Higher Education Institution</u> The fourth possibility that the Curatorium considered, is the establishment of a Private Higher Education Institution.
2.3.4.1 Bevinding Oortuig van die noodsaak daarvan, en na deeglike oorweging en besinning, en in die lig van die basiese uitgangspunt (Skrif en Belydenis, eie kurrikulum, eie dosente vir ampsopleiding), het die Kuratorium besluit om 'n Privaat Hoër Onderwys Instelling op te rig volgens vereistes van die *Hoër Onderwys Wet* (Wet 101 van 1997; Hoofstuk 7) en die *Regulations for Private Higher Education Institutions* 2016.	2.3.4.1 Finding Convinced of its necessity, and after careful consideration and reflection, and in light of the basic premises (Scripture and confession, own curriculum, own lecturers for official training), the Curatorium decided to register a Private Higher Education Institution according to the *Higher Education Act* (Act 101 of 1997; Chapter 7) and the *Regulations for Private Higher Education Institutions 2016*.

2.4 *Die oprigting van Gereformeerde Teologiese Akademie*	2.4 *The establishment of the Reformed Theological Academy*
2.4.1 Inleiding Kuratorium 2015-2018 het reeds die aanvoorwerk gedoen met die oog op die oprigting van 'n eie GKSA instelling om die teologiese opleiding van kandidate vir die Woorddiens waar te neem. Navorsing en gesprekke met Hoër Onderwyskundiges het bevestig dat die oprigting van 'n eie GKSA Hoër Onderwys Instelling ernstig oorweeg moes word. In November 2019 is 'n omvattende *Uitvoerbaarheidstudie* aan die Kuratorium voorgelê waarin die implikasies, lewensvatbaarheid, finansiële volhoubaarheid, 'n besigheidsplan, oprigtingskoste, vereistes en registrasie van 'n Privaat Hoër Onderwys Instelling en die vereistes vir akkreditasie van akademiese programme uitgespel is. Die studie het het aangetoon dat die oprigting van 'n Privaat Hoër Onderwys Instelling, gegrond op die Gereformeerde belydenis, en wat grade kan toeken, aan al die GKSA se uitgangspunte kan voldoen en volhoubaar is binne die beperkings van middele, infrastruktuur en akademiese ervaring. Derhalwe het die Kuratorium besluit om met die proses van die oprigting van 'n Privaat Hoër Onderwys Instelling te begin. Vir hierdie doel is 'n Projekbestuurder aangestel. 'n Tydsraamwerk van 3-4 jaar is in die vooruitsig gestel voordat die instelling met onderrig sou kon begin. Toe Sinode 2021 weens die COVIS-19 pandemie onbepaald uitgestel is, het die proses voortgegaan.	2.4.1 Introduction Curatorium 2015-2018 was involved in preparatory work to setting up a GKSA institution to provide for the theological training of candidates for the service of the Word as ministers. Research and advice from Higher Education experts confirmed that the establishment of an own GKSA Higher Education Institution should be seriously considered. In November 2019, a comprehensive *Feasibility Study* was tabled to the Curatorium. The research-based study spelt out the legal implications, viability, financial sustainability, business plan, establishment costs, requirements and registration of a Private Higher Education Institution and the requirements for accreditation of academic programs. The study indicated that the establishment of a Private Higher Education Institution, based on the Reformed confession, and which can award degrees, could meet all the requirements of the GKSA and would be sustainable within the limitations of existing resources, infrastructure and academic experience. Therefore, the Curators commenced the process of registering a Private Higher Education Institution. A Project Manager was appointed for this purpose. A time frame of 3-4 years was envisioned before the institution should be able to start teaching. When Synod 2021 was postponed indefinitely due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the process was further implemented.
2.4.2 Die oprigting van die Reformed Theological Academy NPC (Reg. Nr. 2021/ 922334 / 08) Op 6 Oktober 2021 is die *Reformed Theological Academy NPC* as 'n Nie Winsgewende Maatskappy met lede geregistreer. Die Akte van Oprigting (*Memorandum of Incorporation*), gebaseer op regsadvies, bepaal: • Lede van die Maatskappy is verkose GKSA Kuratore.	2.4.2 The establishment of the Reformed Theological Academy NPC (Reg. Nr. 2021/ 922334 / 08) On 6 October 2021, the Reformed Theological Academy NPC was registered as a Non Profit Company with members. The *Memorandum of Incorporation*, based on legal advice, states: • Members of the Company are designated curators of the GKSA.

• Die lede verkies minstens 5 Direkteure vir ‘n termyn van 3 jaar. • Daar vind jaarliks ‘n ledevergadering plaas, waartydens (o.a.) die verslag van die Rektor, die verslag van die Direksie en die Jaarverslag aan die Departement van Hoër Onderwys en Opleiding dien en oorweeg word. • Die doel van die Maatskappy is: (1) the providing of ministerial training needs in particular for, but not limited to, the Gereformeerde Kerke in Suid-Afrika (the Reformed Churches in South Africa); (2) The offering of quality higher education qualifications and training programmes; (3) To promote, engage with and present research in support of the academic project; (4) To foster Reformed Theology as, in accordance with Scripture, explicated and clarified in the Heidelberg Catechism, the Belgic Confession and the Canons od Dordt; and (5) To position itself as an Academy of consequence on the African continent, participating globally in promoting and encouraging reformed Theology.	• The members elect at least 5 Directors for a term of 3 years. • A members' meeting takes place annually, during which the Report of the Rector, the Report of the Board of Directors and the Annual Report to the Department of Higher Education and Training (i.a.) are presented and considered. • The purpose (objective) of the Company is: (1) the providing of ministerial training needs in particular for, but not limited to, the Gereformeerde Kerke in Suid-Afrika (the Reformed Churches in South Africa); (2) The offering of quality higher education qualifications and training programmes; (3) To promote, engage with and present research in support of the academic project; (4) To foster Reformed Theology as, in accordance with Scripture, explicated and clarified in the Heidelberg Catechism, the Belgic Confession and the Canons of Dordt; and (5) To position itself as an Academy of consequence on the African continent, participating globally in promoting and encouraging reformed Theology.
2.4.3 <u>Redes vir die oprigting van ‘n regspersoon</u> Die oprigting van ‘n regspersoon met lede (Gereformeerde Teologiese Akademie NWO) is genoodsaak en gemotiveer deur die volgende oorwegings: ○ Die *Hoër Onderwys Wet* (Wet 101 van 1997; Hoofstuk 7) en die *Regulations for Private Higher Education Institutions* 2016 vereis die oprigting van ‘n regspersoon met ‘n duidelik omskrewe doel (doelwitte) as ‘n Privaat Hoër Onderwys Instelling. ○ Die *Akte van Oprigting* is die voorwaardelike statutêre	2.4.3 <u>Reasons for the establishment of a legal entity</u> The establishment of a legal entity with members (Reformed Theological Academy NPC) was necessitated and motivated by the following considerations: ○ The *Higher Education Act* (Act 101 of 1997; Chapter 7) and the *Regulations for Private Higher Education Institutions 2016* require the establishment of a legal entity (juristic person) with a demarcated purpose (objectives) as a Private Higher Education Institution. ○ The *Memorandum of Incorporation* is the conditional statutory document

dokument wat vereis word vir die registrasie as 'n Privaat Hoër Onderwys Instelling by die Departement van Hoër Onderwys, die akkreditasie van programme deur die Raad op Hoër Onderwys en die registrasie van kwalifikasies op die Nasionale Kwalifikasies Raamwerk deur die Suid-Afrikaanse Kwalifikasies Outoriteit. ○ Die omskrewe doel en doelwitte, soos bepaal in die *Akte van Oprigting*, voorsien die konfessionele, akademiese en wetlike basis waarop die visie en missie van die instelling en die uitwerk daarvan in sy standpunte, beleide, regulasies en reëls, gegrondves moet word. ○ Die opgerigte Gereformeerde Teologiese Akademie staan onder volle beheer en toesig van die GKSA en, in ooreenstemming met die belydenisgrondslag, Kerkorde en toepaslike sinodale besluite oor teologiese opleiding, voldoen dit aan al die kerklike vereistes.	required for registration as a Private Higher Education Institution with the Department of Higher Education, the accreditation of programmes by the Council on Higher Education and the registration of qualifications on the National Qualifications Framework by the South African Qualifications Authority. ○ The purpose and objectives as explicated in the *Memorandum of Incorporation*, provide the confessional, academic and legal foundation on which the vision and mission of the institution had to be based and expounded in its statements, policies, regulations and rules. ○ The Reformed Theological Academy is under the full control and supervision of the GKSA and, in accordance with the confessional standards, Church Order, and synodical decisions on theological education, meets all the applicable ecclesial requirements.
2.4.4 <u>Dokumentasie</u> Volledige dokumentasie oor die grondliggende studies, navorsing en die oprig van die GTA is in die notules van die Kuratore en Kuratore Dagbestuur (2018-2023) vervat.	2.4.4 <u>Documentation</u> All documentation concerning the feasibility study, research, and establishment of the RTA is contained in the minutes of the Curators and Curators' Executive Committee (2018-2023).
3. Sake waaroor die Sinode besluit <u>Aanbeveling:</u> Die Algemene Sinode besluit	**3. Matters that the Synod decides on** <u>Recommendation</u>: The Synod decides
3.1 Dat die oprigting en registrasie van die Gereformeerde Teologiese Akademie met dank teenoor die Here van die kerk aanvaar word	3.1 That the establishment and registration of the Reformed Theological Academy NPC be accepted with thanksgiving to the Lord of the church
3.2 Dat die kerklike ramings en fondse vir Teologiese Opleiding en die Teologiese Skool in ooreenstemming met die finansiële regulasies en reëls, tot beskikking van die GTA gestel word	3.2 That the ecclesial "ramings" and funds dedicated to Theological Education and the Theological School, be made available to the RTA, in accordance with the applicable financial regulations and rules
3.3 Dat die GTA in ooreenstemming met die *Akte van Oprigting*, tot sy volle potensiaal ontwikkel moet word	3.3 That the RTA should be developed to its full potential in accordance with the *Memorandum of Incorporation*
3.4 Dat die GTA kwalifikasietipes en programme ontwikkel en akkrediteer wat nodig is vir die opleidingsbehoeftes van die GKSA en	3.4 That the Reformed Theological Academy develops and accredits qualification types and programmes to provide for the training needs of the GKSA and

3.5 Dat die Kuratore 2023-2025 toesien dat die besluite van die Sinode insake die GTA uitgevoer word.	3.5 That the Curators 2023-2025 see that the decisions of the Synod regarding the RTA are executed.

I. **RAPPORT: KOMMISSIE TEOLOGIESE SKOOL**
REPORT: COMMISSION THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL

1. Opdrag Om die Sinode te adviseer rakende die Rapporte van die Kuratore 24.3. **Besluit: Kennis geneem.**	**1. Mandate** To advise the Synod regarding the Reports of the Curators 24.3. **Decision: Noted.**
2. Werkswyse Die Kommissie het ruim geleentheid gegee aan almal wat aangemeld het. Dit sluit in sommige van die professore, Kuratore, van die Deputate Regsaangeleenthede, en ander lede van die vergadering om sekerheid te kry oor sake wat in die Rapporte genoem word. Relevante dokumente en stukke is nagegaan. Die Kommissie wys die vergadering op die opdrag wat die Kuratore in 2018 ontvang het. Die Kommissie het deurgaans verskillende fokuspunte in gedagte gehou, naamlik: 1. Die gesonde regsgrondslag van die Gereformeerde Teologiese Akademie (hierna genoem "GTA"). 2. Die situasie en stabiliteit van "pyplyn-studente". 3. Die stabiliteit van professore en hulle posisie. 4. Die toekoms en volhoubaarheid van die GTA. **Besluit: Kennis geneem.**	**2. Modus operandi** The Commission gave ample opportunity to all who attended. This includes some of the professors, Curators, some of the Deputies Legal affairs, and other members of the meeting to gain certainty on matters mentioned in the Reports. Relevant documents and pieces were checked. The Commission directs the meeting to the assignment received to the Curators in 2018. The Commission has consistently kept various focal points in mind, namely: 1. The sound legal basis of the Reformed Theological Academy (hereinafter referred to as "RTA"). 2. The situation and stability of "pipeline students". 3. The stability of professors and their position. 4. The future and sustainability of the RTA. **Decision: Noted.**
3. Beredenering 3.1 *Historiese verloop* 3.1.1 Dit is die opdrag aan die Kuratore om voortdurende teologiese opleiding te voorsien (kyk opdrag 2.3). 3.1.2 Drie sake was nog altyd vir die kerke ononderhandelbaar naamlik: • Beroeping van professore deur die kerke; • Beheer oor die kurrikulum van teologiese studente; en • Die konfessionele binding en toesig oor studente en professore. 3.1.3 Die grondige hersiening van die 2006 ooreenkoms (klousule 10 daarvan), deur die Raad van die NWU, waarop	**3. Reasoning** 3.1 *Historical course* 3.1.1 It is the assignment of the Curators to provide continuous theological training (see assignment 2.3). 3.1.2 Three issues have always been non-negotiable for the churches, namely: • Calling of professors by the churches; • Control over the curriculum of theological students; and • The confessional binding and supervision of students and professors. 3.1.3 The in-depth review of the 2006 agreement (clause 10 thereof), by the

besluit is 16 Maart 2017, het hierdie opdrag aan die Kuratore in gedrang gebring en hulle genoodsaak om te soek na ander moontlikhede.	Council of the NWU, on which was decided on 16 March 2017, compromised this instruction to the Curators and compelled them to search for other possibilities.
3.1.4 Verskillende moontlikhede vir inskakeling by ander Privaat Hoër Instellings plaaslik en oorsee is ondersoek, maar weens instansies se konfessionele binding en statutêre regulasies was inskakeling nie moontlik nie.	3.1.4 Different possibilities for integration into other Private Higher Institutions locally and abroad were investigated, but due to institutions' confessional binding and statutory regulations, integration was not possible.
3.1.5 Daar is dus *necessitas* vir die oprigting van 'n eie Hoër Onderwys Instelling, weens onder meer die volgende redes: • Aanvoorwerk is reeds deur vorige Kuratore (2015-2018) gedoen; • Weens die dreigende voorneme van beëindiging van die 2006-ooreenkoms deur die NWU en die noodsaaklikheid om voor hierdie sitting van die Algemene Sinode 'n alternatief voor te stel; • Onderwyskundiges het bevestig dat so instelling noodsaaklik is vir die voortgang van teologiese onderrig; • Uitvoerbaarheidstudies is onderneem en voorgelê aan die Kuratore; • Dit was duidelik uit gesprekke met die NWU dat veranderde wetgewing die daarstelling van 'n geakkrediteerde instelling verpligtend maak vir enige verdere onderhandeling en verhoudinge tussen die twee instansies; • Aangesien die Admin Buro van die GKSA se mandaat nie opleiding is nie, kon nie van hulle as regspersoon gebruik gemaak word nie; • Hierdie mandaat ressorteer onder die Kuratorium (Prospektus Klousule 2 p. 13).	3.1.5 There are therefore *necessitas* for the establishment of an own Higher Education Institution, due to, among others, the following reasons: • Preliminary work has already been done by previous Curators (2015-2018); • Due to the imminent intention of termination of the 2006 agreement by the NWU and the need to propose an alternative before this sitting of the General Synod; • Education experts have affirmed that such an institution is essential to the continuation of theological education; • Feasibility studies have been undertaken and submitted to the Curators; • It was clear from discussions with the NWU that amended legislation makes the establishment of an accredited institution compulsory for any further negotiation and relations between the two institutions; • Since the Admin Bureau of the GKSA's mandate is not training, they could not be used as a legal person; • This mandate falls under the board of Curators (Prospectus Clause 2 p. 13).
3.1.6 Op 6 Oktober 2021 is die GTA opgerig as 'n nie-winsgewende maatskappy met lede. Dit is genoodsaak deur die skipbreuk en vertroebeling van onderhandelinge met die NWU.	3.1.6 On 6 October 2021, the RTA was established as a non-profit company with members. This was necessitated by the shipwreck and clouding of negotiations with the NWU.
3.1.7 Sodanige Maatskappy se stigting en	3.1.7 Such Company's creation and

oprigting moet nog deur die GKSA se Algemene Sinode aanvaar word.	establishment is yet to be accepted by the GKSA's General Synod.
3.2 Die Kommissie is oortuig dat op die huidige stadium (die ooreenkoms van 25 Oktober 2022 plus voorgestelde wysigings wat die NWU voorstel in skrywe van 29 Januarie 2023) en gesien die houding van die NWU, veral m.b.t. die tydbestuur van TSP se professore en die eiendomsreg van "IP", die huidige voorgestelde ooreenkoms met die NWU nie aangegaan kan word nie. Dit is ook beaam deur partye waarmee die Kommissie onderhoude gevoer het, insluitende die Regsdeputate.	3.2 The Commission is convinced that at the current stage (the agreement of 25 October 2022 plus proposed amendments proposed by the NWU in communication of 29 January 2023) and taking into account the attitude of the NWU, especially with regard to the time management of TSP's professors and the property rights of "IP", the current proposed agreement with the NWU cannot be concluded. This was also echoed by parties interviewed by the Commission, including the Deputies Law.
3.3 Alhoewel die Kommissie kennis neem dat die ontwikkeling van die GTA nie sonder groeipyne sal wees nie, en dat die GKSA 'n periode van ongeveer 3 (drie) jaar sal beskikbaar hê om die werking te belyn, is die beplanning alreeds ver gevorderd, soos blyk uit die finansiële uitvoerbaarheidstudie.	3.3 Although the Commission notes that the development of the RTA will not be without growing pains, and that the GKSA will have a period of approximately 3 (three) years available to align the operation, the planning is already well advanced, as evidenced by the financial feasibility study.
3.4 Soos met die stigting van die TSP moet die onderneming van die GTA met groot dankbaarheid en in gebed en vertroue aangepak word.	3.4 As with the establishment of the TSP, the undertaking of the RTA should be undertaken with great gratitude and in prayer and trust.
Besluit: Punte 3.1 tot 3.4 kennis geneem.	**Decision: Points 3.1 to 3.4 noted.**
4. Die Sinode besluit	**4. The Synod decides**
4.1 Dat die werk van die Kuratore in die oprigting en registrasie van die Gereformeerde Teologiese Akademie met dank teenoor die Here van die kerk aanvaar word.	4.1 That the work of the Curators in the establishment and registration of the Reformed Theological Academy be accepted with thanks to the Lord of the church.
Besluit: Goedgekeur.	**Decision: Approved.**
4.2 Dat die kerklike ramings en fondse vir Teologiese Opleiding en die Teologiese Skool in ooreenstemming met die finansiële regulasies en reëls, tot beskikking van die GTA gestel word.	4.2 That the ecclesiastical *ramings* and funds for Theological Training and the Theological Seminary, in compliance with the financial regulations and rules, be placed at the disposal of the RTA.
Besluit: Goedgekeur.	**Decision: Approved.**
4.3 Dat die GTA in ooreenstemming met die Akte van Oprigting, tot sy volle potensiaal ontwikkel moet word.	4.3 That the RTA, in accordance with the Deed of Incorporation, needs to be developed to its fullest potential.
Besluit: Goedgekeur.	**Decision: Approved.**
4.4 Dat die GTA kwalifikasietipes en programme ontwikkel en akkrediteer wat nodig is vir die opleidingsbehoeftes van die GKSA en GTA.	4.4 That the RTA develops and accredits qualifications and programs that is necessary for the training needs of the GKSA and RTA.
Besluit: Goedgekeur (wysiging reeds aangebring – Deputate Handelinge).	**Decision: Approved (amendment already made – Deputies Acta).**
4.5 Dat die Kuratore 2023-2025 toesien	4.5 That the Curators 2023-2025 ensure

dat die besluite van die Sinode insake die GTA uitgevoer word.	that the decisions of the Synod with regards to the RTA be executed.
Besluit: Goedgekeur.	**Decision: Approved.**
Die uitvoerbaarheidstudies moet deur die Kuratore in samewerking met die Administratiewe Buro hanteer word.	**The feasibility studies must be handled by the Curators in cooperation with the Administrative Bureau.**