26. MAATSKAPLIKE SAKE
26. SOCIAL AFFAIRS

26.1 RAPPORT: DEPUTATE VIR OMGEWINGSAKE (Art 186)

26.1 REPORT: DEPUTIES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS (Art 186)

A. Die voorsitter, ds P Venter, stel die Rapport.
The chairman, Rev. P Venter, tables the Report.

B. Die Rapport word staande die Sinode afgehandel.
The Report is concluded while the Synod is in session.

C. **RAPPORT / REPORT**

1. Opdrag (Acta 2018:1016-1017)	**1. Mandate** (Acta 2018:1016-1017)
1.1 Dat die te benoeme Deputate in oorleg met die Redaksies van die Kerklike Tydskrifte sinvolle artikels oor omgewingsbewaring publiseer. Hierdie artikels kan by wyse van die GKSA poslys in Engels ook versprei word.	1.1 That the Deputies to be nominated, in consultation with the Editors of the Church Magazines, publish meaningful articles on environmental conservation. These articles can also be distributed in English via the GKSA mailing list.
1.2 Dat die te benoeme Deputate predikante aanspoor om oor hierdie saak (omgewingsbewaring) te preek en hulle gemeentes aan te spoor om hul roeping rondom hierdie saak uit te leef.	1.2 That the Deputies to be nominated encourage ministers to preach on this matter (environmental conservation) and encourage their congregations to live out their calling around this matter.
1.3 Dat die Deputate praktiese planne (werksdokumente) op die tafel plaas oor hoe ons die skepping moet oppas bv deur middel van herwinning (bewaring van die omgewing).	1.3 That the Deputies put practical plans (working documents) on the table on how we should care for the creation, e.g. through recycling (conservation of the environment).
1.4 Dat die te benoeme Deputate kontak maak met die Deputate Christelike Onderwys en Deputate Jeug oor wyses waarop die jeug oor hierdie saak ingelig en opgevoed kan word.	1.4 That the Deputies to be nominated make contact with the Deputies Christian Education and Deputies Youth on ways the youth can be informed and educated on this matter.
1.5 Dat die te benoeme Deputate met die Deputate Ekumeniese Sake (Binnelands) skakel om te bepaal op welke wyse daar met ander kerke (bv NGK, NHK e.a.) saamgewerk kan word om ons gemeentes op hul plaaslike roeping te wys.	1.5 That the Deputies to be nominated liaise with the Deputies Ecumenical Affairs (Domestic) to determine how they can work with other churches (e.g. DRC, NHK etc.) to point out our congregations on their local calling.
1.6 Dat die te benoeme Deputate met Nasionale Omgewingsbewaringsorganisasies skakel om te bepaal op welke wyse die probleme aangespreek kan word. Hierdie bevindinge moet aan die kerkverband gekommunikeer word.	1.6 That the Deputies to be nominated liaise with National Environmental Conservation Organizations to determine how the problems can be addressed. These findings need to be communicated to the church.
Besluit: Punte 1.1 tot 1.6 kennis geneem.	**Decision: Points 1.1 to 1.6 noted.**

2. Sake waarvan die Sinode kennis neem	**2. Matters that the Synod takes note of**
2.1 *Uitvoering van opdrag*	2.1 *Execution of mandate*
2.1.1 In oorleg met *Die Kerkblad*-redaksie, het die November 2018 uitgawe spesiaal aandag aan omgewingskwessies verleen. Gereelde artikels rakende die omgewing het gedurende 2018/19 verskyn. Van hulle is ook in Engels vertaal.	2.1.1 In consultation with *Die Kerkblad* editorial staff, the November 2018 issue paid particular attention to environmental matters. Regular articles regarding the environment appeared during 2018/19. Some of them have also been translated into English.
2.1.2 Reeds tydens Sinode 2018 is predikante aangespoor om meer oor die skeppingsopdrag te preek, ten einde 'n leefbare omgewing tot God se eer te verseker. 'n Paar gemeentes is kortliks na 'n erediens toegespreek om hul roeping in die saak met passie te mobiliseer en volhoubaar uit te leef. Gesprekke het ook op radiostasies plaasgevind van hoe om die besondere band tussen die mens en sy natuurlike erfenis te verryk.	2.1.2 Already during Synod 2018, ministers were encouraged to preach more about the creation commission to ensure a liveable environment for God's glory. A few congregations were addressed briefly after a worship service to mobilize their calling in the matter with passion and to live sustainably. Talks have also taken place on radio stations about enriching the special bond between man and his natural heritage.
2.1.3 Verdere praktiese planne wat met besondere sukses toegepas is, het ingesluit:	2.1.3 Further practical plans applied with particular success included:
2.1.3.1 Die Maart 2019 landswye Sustersaamtrekke op een dag, het as tema gehad: Om-gee-wingsbewus	2.1.3.1 The March 2019 nationwide one-day sister rallies had as their theme: Om-gee-wingsbewus.
2.1.3.2 Sedert Mei 2018 is maandeliks vyf Omgewingspitkos brokkies van 120 woorde aan alle Gereformeerde Kerke gestuur op die GKSA e-poslys. Deur die plasing hiervan in gemeentes se nuusbriewe kon duisende lidmate rustig voor die erediens hul in omgewingsake verdiep.	2.1.3.2 Since May 2018, five 120-word Environmental Spit Foods have been sent to all Reformed Churches on the GKSA e-mail list every month. By posting this in congregational newsletters, thousands of members could immerse themselves in environmental issues before the worship service.
2.1.3.3 Ds Chris Coetsee het sedert 2019 maandeliks in die GKSA Nuusbrokkies Omgewingsflitse geplaas wat met groot waardering ontvang is.	2.1.3.3 Rev. Chris Coetsee has been posting monthly flashbacks in the GKSA Nuusbrokkies Select Monthly since 2019 that have been received with great appreciation.
2.1.3.4 Dr Pieter (Peet) van der Walt, as Deputaat, het vroeg in 2021 'n Omgewingsdagboek gepubliseer wat skriftuurlik meer lig op omgewingsprobleme behoort te bied. Talle artikels deur skrywers van formaat is hiervoor onder elkeen se eie naam aangewend.	2.1.3.4 Dr Pieter (Peet) van der Walt, as Deputy, published an Environmental Diary in early 2021, which should shed more light on environmental problems in scripture. Numerous articles by authors of format have been used for this under each one's own name.

2.1.4 Verskeie artikels is in kerke se jeugtydskrifte geplaas.	2.1.4 Various articles have been published in churches' youth magazines.
2.1.5 Ekumeniese skakeling	2.1.5 Ecumenical liaison
2.1.5.1 Tydens Februarie 2020 is met die Nederduits Gereformeerde Kerk Wes-Kaap se diensgroep Ekologie vergader ten einde interkerklike samewerking op die omgewings-terrein te bevorder. Daar is besluit om nou saam te werk veral om lidmate so ver te kry om prakties en eenvoudig omgewingsvriendelik te leef. Dit is as die vernaamste knelpunt beskou waarop die kerk 'n bydrae kan lewer tot die totale poging om alle vlakke van die gemeenskap van die omgewingskrisis bewus te maak.	2.1.5.1 During February 2020, a meeting was held with the Dutch Reformed Church Western Cape's service group Ecology to promote inter-church cooperation in the environmental field. It was decided to work closely together, especially to get members so far to live practically and simply environmentally friendly. It was seen as the main bottleneck on which the church could contribute to the overall effort to make all community levels aware of the environmental crisis.
2.1.5.2 Samewerking is ook bewerkstellig met 'n internasionaal bekende bewaringsinstansie genaamd A. Rocha se Suid-Afrikaanse arm wat op die Christelik kerklike akker bedrywig is.	2.1.5.2 Cooperation was also established with an internationally known conservation institution called A. Rocha's South African arm, which operated in the Christian ecclesiastical field.
2.1.6 Skakeling is bewerkstellig met WWF-SA as voorloper op die nasionale bewarings/omgewings front. Inligting van broodnodige aard is van hulle bekom.	2.1.6 Liaison was established with WWF-SA as a forerunner on the national conservation/environmental front. Information of a much-needed nature was obtained from them.
Besluit: Punte 2.1.1 tot 2.1.6 kennis geneem.	**Decision: Points 2.1.1 to 2.1.6 noted.**
3. Sake waaroor die Sinode besluit	**3. Matters that the Synod decides on**
3.1 *Aanbevelings*	3.1 *Recommendations*
3.1.1 Dat kerke aangespoor word om voortdurend aandag te skenk aan ons verantwoordelikheid ten opsigte van die omgewing.	3.1.1 That churches are encouraged to pay attention to our responsibility concerning the environment constantly.
3.1.2 Dat die standpunt van die GKSA rakende omgewingsake steeds op die GKSA se webblad beskikbaar bly en onder die aandag van lidmate gebring word.	3.1.2 That the position of the GKSA regarding environmental issues remains available on the GKSA's website and is brought to the attention of members.
3.1.3 Dat daar nie weer Deputate aangewys word nie.	3.1.3 That Deputies are not re-appointed.
Besluit: Punte 3.1.1 tot 3.1.3 goedgekeur.	**Decision: Points 3.1.1 to 3.1.3 approved.**