8. RAPPORT VAN DIE ROEPENDE KERKRAAD (Artt 2, 8, 11, 15, 197, 212)

8. REPORT OF THE CALLING CHURCH COUNCIL (Arts 2, 8, 11, 15, 197, 212)

A. Ds WJ Steyn hou pt 1 van die Aanvullende Rapport van die Roepende Kerkraad voor.
Rev. WJ Steyn presents pt 1 of the Supplementary Report of the Calling Church Council.

B. Geen bespreking word toegelaat nie.
No discussion is allowed.

C. Die Voorsitter van die Roepende Kerkraad, ds HS Coetzee reël dat die konstituering sonder die Kredensiebrief van Streeksinode Pretoria voortgaan.
The Chairman of the Calling Church Council, Rev. HS Coetzee arranges for the constitution to proceed without the Credentials from Regional Synod Pretoria.

D. Die Voorsitter van die Roepende Kerkraad, ds HS Coetzee, stel die Rapport.
The Chairman of the Calling Church Council, Rev. HS Coetzee, tables the Report.

E. Ds HS Coetzee hou die Aanvullende Rapport voor.
Besluit:
1. -Geen verdere besluite word oor die Aanvullende Rapport van die Roepende Kerkraad deur die Sinode geneem alvorens uitsluitsel verkry is oor die sittingsreg van die afgevaardigdes van Streeksinode Pretoria.
2. Die Rapport word in sy geheel verwys na die te benoeme Kommissie pre-advies.
Rev. HS Coetzee presents the Supplementary Report.
Decision:
1. No further decisions are taken on the Supplementary Report of the Calling Church Council by the Synod before exclusion has been obtained on the right of session of the delegates from Regional Synod Pretoria.
2. The Report is referred in its entirety to the Pre-advisory commission (to be appointed).

F. <u>Aanwys van Kommissie Advies oor Kredensiebrief Streeksinode Pretoria.</u>
Die volgende Kommissie word aangewys: Dr PJ Venter (s), dr EJ de Beer (skriba), di PJ Jansen van Nieuwenhuizen, GP van Rhyn, CJ van Vuuren en dr HM Zwemstra.
<u>Appointment of Commission advice regarding credentials of Regional Synod Pretoria.</u>
The following Advisory commission is appointed: Dr PJ Venter (c), dr EJ de Beer (clerk), Revs. PJ Jansen van Nieuwenhuizen, GP van Rhyn, CJ van Vuuren and dr HM Zwemstra.

G. <u>Opdrag aan die Kommissie</u>
1. Adviseer die Moderamen hoe met die saak van die Kredensiebrief van Streeksinode Pretoria gehandel moet word na die afhandeling van Appèlle.
2. Adviseer die Moderamen aangaande pt 7 van die Rapport van die Roepende Kerkraad en die Aanvullende Rapport van die Roepende Kerkraad.
<u>Assignment to the Commission</u>
1. Advise the Moderamen on how the matter of the credentials of Regional Synod Pretoria should be dealt with after the conclusion of the Appeals.
2. Advise the Moderamen regarding pt 7 of the Report of the Calling Church Council and the Supplementary Report of the Calling Church Council.

H. Dr EJ de Beer lewer die Rapport van die Ad hoc kommissie oor advies aan die Moderamen insake konstituering.
Dr EJ de Beer delivers the Report of the Ad hoc commission to the Moderamen regarding constituting.

I. Ds PW Kurpershoek lewer Rapport 1 van die Moderamen.
Rev. PW Kurpershoek delivers Report 1 of the Moderamen.

J. Verskillende sake word deur afgevaardigdes gestel wat die verloop van die vergadering raak en wat die Voorsitter daartoe bring om die orde soos volg te reël, met instemming van die vergadering:
'n Nuwe Ad hoc Kommissie (7) word aangewys met die opdrag: *Adviseer die Sinode aangaande die afhandeling van die Aanvullende Rapport van die Roepende Kerkraad*.
Lede van die Kommissie is: Di LSD du Plessis (v), N Pienaar (s), Z van't Zand, AF Berg, AP de Jager, oudle ASM van Jaarsveld en PWH Aucamp.
Different matters are stated by delegates affecting the course of the meeting and bringing the Chairperson to arrange the order as follows, with the concurrence of the meeting:
A new Ad hoc Commission (7) is appointed with the instruction: *Advise the Synod regarding the finalisation of the Supplementary Report of the Calling Church Council.*
Members of the Commission are: Revs. LSD du Plessis (c), N Pienaar (s), Z van't Zand, AF Berg, AP de Jager, elders ASM van Jaarsveld and PWH Aucamp.

K. Dr D Lartz tree op as voorsitter.
Dr D Lartz acts as chairperson.

L. Ds LSD du Plessis lewer die Rapport van Ad hoc Kommissie (7).
Rev. LSD du Plessis delivers the Report of Ad hoc Commission (7).

M. Die volgende Ordevoorstel word deur drr WC Vergeer en AJ Krüger voorgehou en deur die Voorsitter tot stemming gebring: *Dat van die saak afgestap word...*
Motivering: *Sodat die gesindheid van Christus op hierdie manier in die vergadering betoon kan word.*
Die Ordevoorstel word aanvaar en daarmee word van die saak afgestap.
The following order proposal is made by drs WC Vergeer and AJ Krüger and put to a vote by the Chairman: *That the matter be taken off of the table.*
Motivation: *So that the attitude of Christ can in this way be shown in the meeting.*
The Order Proposal is accepted and with that the matter is taken off the table.

N. **RAPPORT / REPORT**

1. Oproep Die oproep van die Sinode is vroegtydig in *Die Kerkblad* (Augustus 2022) gepubliseer, terwyl oproepe later aan al die Deputate vir Korrespondensie van die Streeksinodes gestuur is.	**1. Calling** The calling with regard to the Synod was published in good time in *Die Kerkblad* (August 2022). Later on calls were sent to all Deputies for Correspondence of the Regional Synods.
2. Huisvesting Verblyf is gereël by Marita Selfsorgwoonstelle asook by lidmate van die onderskeie gemeentes in Potchefstroom. Etes sal in die eetsaal van die Sinodesaal wees en ook in die kerksaal van GK Potchefstroom-Die Bult. Vir die buitelandse besoekers is ook verblyf gereël.	**2. Accommodation** Accommodation has been arranged at Marita Self Catering Apartments as well as with members of the various congregations in Potchefstroom. Meals will be in the dining hall of the Synod Hall and also in the church hall of GK Potchefstroom-Die Bult. For the foreign visitors, accommodation was also arranged.
3. Verversings Die susters van die Potchefstroomse gemeentes sal aan die afgevaardigdes koffie, tee en vrugtesap tydens die pouses verskaf.	**3. Refreshments** Sisters of the Potchefstroom congregations will provide coffee, tea and fruit juice during intervals.
4. Godsdiensoefening In ooreenstemming met die besluit van	**4. Opening Service** In agreement with the decision of the

die Nasionale Sinode 1967 is gereël dat die Sinode op die openingsaand (30 Januarie 2023) om 19:00 in die kerkgebou van Potchefstroom-Die Bult saamkom. Die godsdiensoefening staan onder die toesig van Potchefstroom-Die Bult.	National Synod 1967 an assembly for all Synod attendees has been arranged to take place in the Potchefstroom-Die Bult church building on the opening evening (30 January 2023) at 19:00. Potchefstroom-Die Bult will take responsibility for the supervision of the opening service.
Besluit: Punte 1 tot 4 kennis geneem.	**Decision: Points 1 to 4 noted.**
5. Sittingstye Die Roepende Kerkraad beveel, in ooreenstemming met die sittingstye van die vorige Sinode, die volgende tye aan: Weeksdae: 08:00 – 10:30 (Teepouse) 10:45 – 12:45 13:30 – 16:00 (Teepouse) 16:15 – 17:45 19:00 – 21:00 Saterdag: 08:00 – 10:30 10:45 – 12:45	**5. Session Times** In accordance with the times as scheduled for the previous Synod, the Calling Church Council would recommend the following times: Weekdays: 08:00 – 10:30 (Tea break) 10:45 – 12:45 13:30 – 16:00 (Tea break) 16:15 – 17:45 19:00 – 21:00 Saturday: 08:00 – 10:30 10:45 – 12:45
Besluit: Goedgekeur.	**Decision: Approved.**
6. Verwelkoming Alle afgevaardigdes en besoekers is hartlik welkom op Potchefstroom en die Roepende Kerkraad sal graag u verblyf so aangenaam as moontlik maak. Ons bid dat die Here sy seën sal gee sodat hierdie vergadering die instandhouding en groei van die Gereformeerde Kerke sal dien.	**6. Word of Welcome** A hearty welcome is extended to all representatives and visitors. The Calling Church Council would like to make your stay at Potchefstroom as pleasant as possible. We pray that God will bestow his blessings on this meeting so that it will contribute towards securing and advancing the maintenance and growth of the Reformed Churches.
Besluit: Kennis geneem.	**Decision: Noted.**
7. Kredensiebriewe Kredensiebriewe Krediensiebriewe is van al die Deputate Korrespondensie van die Streeksinodes ontvang. Dit is behoorlik onderteken en in orde bevind.	**7. Credentials** Credentials have been received from all the Deputies Correspondence of the Regional Synod They are properly signed and are found to be in order.
Besluit: Verwys na 'n te benoeme Kommissie van pre-advies om die Sinode te adviseer rakende die Kredensiebrief van Streeksinode Pretoria.	**Decision: Referred to a Pre-advisory Commission (to be appointed) to advise the Synod regarding the Credentials of Regional Synod Pretoria.**

O. **AANVULLENDE RAPPORT / SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT**

1. Insake konstituering Die Roepende Kerkraad was genoodsaak om 'n besluit te neem oor die ordelike hantering van die Kredensiebrief van Streeksinode Pretoria . Daar is Appèlle teen 'n besluit van die Streeksinode wat die wese van hulle afvaardiging raak.	**1. Regarding constitution** The Calling Church Council was forced to make a decision on the orderly handling of the Letter of credence from the Regional Synod Pretoria because there are Appeals against a decision of the Regional Synod which affects the essence of their delegation.

In sy soeke om objektief tot die beste orde op te tree het die Kerkraad kerkregtelike advies ingewin en ook twee naburige Kerkrade gevra om saam met die Kerkraad te besin oor die beste wyse om die saak te hanteer.
Op ‘n gesamentlike vergadering met Deputate van naburige Kerkrade is eenparig besluit om die orde so te reël:

Onderhewig aan die besluit wat die Sinode ná konstituering aan die hand van die beslissing van die Appèlle teen die besluite van Streeksinode Pretoria oor afvaardiging mag neem, hou die Roepende Kerkraad vir die doeleindes van ordelike konstituering aanvaarding van die geloofsbrief wat van Streeksinode Pretoria ontvang is, terug.

Die Kerkraad meen dat net die Sinode self oor die aanvaarding van die Kredensiebrief kan besluit en dat die Sinode gevolglik eers gekonstitueer moes word voordat die saak – hangende die Appèlle teen die besluit – deur die Sinode self hanteer kon word.

2. Brief van GK Waterkloofrand

‘n “Ordevoorstel”, gedateer 15 Januarie 2023, is aan die Deputate Programmering en die Roepende Kerkraad gerig met ‘n voorstel dat *“kerke wat nie die Sinodebesluite aangaande die vrou in amp ooreenkomstig die reëlings in die Kerkorde as vas en bindend beskou nie, se kredensie nie deur ‘n meerdere vergadering aanvaar kan word nie.” Hulle versoek die vergadering dat daar aan afgevaardigdes van hierdie kerke geen sittingsreg tydens die vergadering gegee word nie.*

Die Kerkraad oordeel dat ‘n Ordevoorstel net tydens ‘n bestaande vergadering, waar lede wat dit indien teenwoordig is, ingedien kan word. Dit is onseker na watter vergadering die brief verwys aangesien dit aan die Deputate Programmering en die Roepende Kerkraad gerig is. Verder word ‘n inhoudelike saak, wat op die Agenda van die Sinode is voortydig in ‘n Ordevoorstel betrek. Buitendien raak ‘n

In its quest to act objectively for the best order, the Church Council sought ecclesiastical advice and also asked two neighbouring Church Councils to reflect together with the Church Council on the best way to handle the matter.
At a joint meeting with Deputies from neighbouring Church Councils, it was unanimously decided to arrange the order in this way:

Subject to the decision that the Synod may, after having been constituted and following the adjudication of the Appeals against the decisions of Pretoria Regional Synod, take concerning delegation, the Calling Church Council withholds for the urposes of an orderly constituting process acceptance of the received credential letter from Pretoria Regional Synod.

The Church Council considered that only the Synod itself could decide on the acceptance of the Letter of credence and that the meeting had to be constituted as a result before the matter – pending the Appeals against the decision – could be handled by the Synod itself.

2. Letter from GK Waterkloofrand

An “Order Proposal”, dated January 15, 2023, was addressed to the Deputies Programming and the Calling Church Council with a proposal that *“the Credenials of churches that do not consider the Synod decisions regarding the woman in office as fixed and binding in accordance with the arrangements in the Church Order, cannot be accepted by a major meeting”. They request the meeting that delegates from these churches are not given the right to sit during the meeting.*

The Church Council considers that a Order Proposal can only be submitted during an existing meeting, by members who are present. It is uncertain which meeting the letter refers to as it is addressed to the Deputy Programming and the Calling Church Council. Furthermore, a matter of substance, which is on the Agenda of the Synod, is prematurely involved in this motion of order. Besides, a Order Proposal affects

Ordevoorstel die orde van ‘n vergadering nie die inhoud van ‘n bepaalde saak nie. Die Kerkraad besluit dat die Ordevoorstel nie ontvanklik vir hierdie vergadering is nie.	the order and not the content of a particular case. The Church Council decides that the Order Proposal is not acceptable for this meeting.

P. **RAPPORT : AD HOC KOMMISSIE ADVIES VIR DIE MODERAMEN OOR KONSTITUERING**
REPORT : AD-HOC COMMISSION ADVICE TO THE MODERAMEN REGARDING CONSTITUTING

1. Opdrag	**1. Assignment**
1.1 Om die Moderamen te adviseer hoe om met die saak van Streeksinode Pretoria gehandel moet word na afhandeling van die tersaaklike Appèlle.	1.1 To advise the Moderamen on how to deal with the matter of Regional Synod Pretoria after the conclusion of the relevant Appeals.
1.2 Om die Moderamen te adviseer aangaande pt 7 van die Rapport van die Roepende Kerkraad asook die Aanvullende Rapport van die Roepende Kerkraad.	1.2 To advise the Moderamen regarding pt 7 of the Report Calling Church Council as well as the Supplementary Report of the Calling Church Council.
Besluit: Punte 1.1 en 1.2 kennis geneem.	**Decision: Points 1.1 and 1.2 noted.**
2. Probleemstelling Die vraag is hoe gehandel moet word met Streeksinode Pretoria se kredensiebrief.	**2. Problem** The question is how should Regional Synod Pretoria’s credentials be dealt with.
Besluit: Kennis geneem.	**Decision: Noted.**
3. Beredenering	**3. Reasoning**
3.1 Die Sinode het bevind dat regskrenking plaasgevind het. Die regsimplikasie is dat die Streeksinode Pretoria die prosedure van afvaardiging moet hersien.	3.1 The Synod found that a miscarriage of justice had occurred. The legal implication is that the Regional Synod Pretoria should review the procedure of delegation.
3.2 Die appellante vra dat die prosedure hersien word, maar nie soseer dat die kredensie na hierdie vergadering oorgedoen of in hersiening geneem moet word nie. Beide appelante het in die Kommissie getuig dat hulle die Kredensiebriewe soos op die vergadering ingedien, aanvaar.	3.2 The appealants asked that the procedure be reconsidered, but not necessarily that the Credentials, as submitted to this meeting should be redone or reviewed. Both appealants testified in the Commission that they accept the Credentials as submitted to this meeting.
3.3 Waar reg gekrenk is, moet reg herstel word indien dit moontlik is. In hierdie geval is die moontlikheid nie daar nie, synde die Algemene Sinode reeds in sitting is en die oproep van ‘n Streeksinode om weer af te vaardig, nie moontlik blyk te wees nie.	3.3 Where injustice has happened, corrections should be made wherever if possible. In this case, the possibility is not there, as the General Synod is already in session and the call of a Regional Synod to redelegate once more does not appear to be feasable.
3.4 Die belang van die Koninkryk van God vereis dat ons van alle Streeksinodes ‘n afgevaardiging moet hê. Ten spyte van die konflik wat mag	3.4 The importance of the Kingdom of God requires us to have a delegation from all Regional Synods. Despite the conflict that may prevail, the importance of God's

heers, behoort die belang van God se koninkryk en die belang van die kerke voorrang te geniet. **Besluit: Punte 3.1 tot 3.4 kennis geneem.**	kingdom and the interest of the churches should take precedence. **Decision: Points 3.1 to 3.4 noted.**
4. Aanbeveling Dat hierdie vergadering die kredensiebrief van Streeksinode Pretoria aanvaar. **Besluit: Die Kommissie se Rapport word met meerderheid van stem aanvaar. Implikasie: Die Kredensiebrief van Streeksinode Pretoria word aanvaar.** **Die Kredensiebrief sal Dinsdag, 31 Januarie 2023, met die dagopening, afgehandel word.**	**4. Recommendation** That this meeting accept the Credentials of Regional Synod Pretoria. **Decision: The Commission's report is accepted by majority vote. Implication: The Credentials of Regional Synod Pretoria is accepted.** **The Credentials will be finalised on Tuesday, 31 January 2023 with the day opening.**

Q. **RAPPORT 1 VAN DIE MODERAMEN**
REPORT 1 OF THE MODERAMEN

1. Opdrag Ad hoc kommissie oor konstituering: Advies aan die Moderamen. **Besluit: Kennis geneem.**	**1. Assignment** Ad hoc commission re constituting: Advice to the Moderamen. **Decision: Noted.**
2. Werkswyse Die Moderamen het met dank die Adviesrapport van die Ad hoc kommissie ontvang en rapporteer soos volg: **Besluit: Kennis geneem.**	**2. Modus Operandi** The Moderamen gratefully received the Advisory Report of the Ad hoc commission and reports as follows: **Decision: Noted.**
3. Aanvullende Rapport van die Roepende Kerkraad oor die prosedure vir konstituering van die Sinode 3.1 <u>Beredenering</u> Die Roepende Kerk het 'n prosedure gevolg wat voluit berus op die mandaat van die Roepende Kerkraad. Dit het die verwagting en die gevolg gehad dat die vergadering moes konstitueer voordat die kredensiebrief van Streeksinode Pretoria behandel kon word. Moontlike knelpunte wat uit hierdie prosedure ontstaan, is die volgende: 3.1.1 'n Orde is deur die Roepende Kerkraad gevolg sonder dat die afgevaardigdes wat daardeur geraak is, vrae kon vra of aangehoor is. 3.1.2 Die Roepende Kerkraad het die Streeksinode Pretoria uitgesluit van kredensie op grond van 'n appèlsaak op die Sinode se Agenda voordat die Sinode oor die betrokke Agendapunt kon handel. 3.1.3 Daar is vrae of die Roepende Kerkraad	**3. Supplementary Report of the Calling Church Council regarding the procedure for constitution of the Synod** 3.1 <u>Reasoning</u> The Calling Church followed a procedure based entirely on the mandate of the Calling Church Council. This had the expectation and effect that the meeting had to be constituted before the credentials of Regional Synod Pretoria could be dealt with. Possible difficulties arising from this procedure are the following: 3.1.1 An order was followed by the Calling Church Council without the delegates affected being able to ask questions or be heard. 3.1.2 The Calling Church Council excluded the Regional Synod Pretoria from credentials on the basis of an Appeal on the Synod's agenda before the Synod could deal with the relevant agenda point. 3.1.3 There are questions as to whether the

sy opdrag volgens KO, art 45 korrek uitgevoer het deur oor die afgevaardigdes van Streeksinode Pretoria as sulks te oordeel.	Calling Church Council correctly carried out its mandate according to CO, art 45 by adjudicating the Deputies of Regional Synod Pretoria as such.
3.1.4 Die Roepende Kerkraad het op 'n orde besluit terwyl daar ook 'n ander Ordevoorstel per brief aan hulle gerig was en wat hulle geoordeel het nie ter tafel geneem kan word nie.	3.1.4 The Calling Church Council decided on an order while another order proposal was also addressed to them by letter and which they judged cannot be tabled.
Besluit: Punte 3.1 tot 3.1.4 kennis geneem.	**Decision: Points 3.1 to 3.1.4 noted.**
3.2 Sake om oor te besluit Die Moderamen beveel aan – in lyn met die advies wat ontvang is – dat die Sinode soos volg hieroor besluit:	3.2 Matters to decide on The Moderamen recommend – in line with the advice received – that the Synod decide on this as follows:
3.2.1 Dat die Sinode kennis neem van die handelswyse van die Roepende Kerkraad.	3.2.1 That the Synod takes note of the manner in which it was handled by the Calling Church Council.
Besluit: Nie goedgekeur nie.	**Decision: Not approved.**
3.2.2 Dat die Sinode aanvaar dat die Roepende Kerkraad bona fide opgetree het.	3.2.2 That the Synod accepts that the Calling Church Council acted bona fide.
3.2.3 Dat die uitkoms van die proses aanvaar word en dat die Sinode voortgaan met die vergadering soos gekonstitueer.	3.2.3 That the outcome of the process be accepted and that the Synod proceed with the meeting as constituted.
3.2.4 Dat dit die eer van God die beste sal dien as die Moderamen soos verkies voortgaan om die vergadering te lei.	3.2.4 That it shall best serve the honour of God if the Moderamen as elected continues to lead the meeting.
Besluit: Punte 3.2.2 tot 3.2.4 word na 'n nuwe ad hoc kommissie verwys. Kyk J bo.	**Decision: Points 3.2.2 to 3.2.4 are referred to a new Ad hoc commission. See J above.**
4. Die Ordevoorstel van GK Waterkloofrand wat per brief aan die Roepende Kerkraad en die Sinode gerig is	**4. The Order Proposal of GK Waterkloofrand addressed by a letter to the Calling Church Council and the Synod**
4.1 Beredenering Die opdrag aan die Moderamen was om te bepaal of die brief op die Roepende Kerkraad se tafel gehoort het al dan nie en of die brief op die tafel van die Sinode hoort of nie. Oor die vraag of die brief op die Roepende Kerkraad se tafel tuishoort, kan net daarop gewys word dat die brief ook aan die Roepende Kerkraad gerig was en hulle gevolglik die verantwoordelikheid gehad het om die brief ter tafel te neem. Die Roepende Kerkraad dui in hulle Rapport aan dat hulle geoordeel het dat die Ordevoorstel nie ontvanklik is nie.	4.1 Reasoning The instruction to the Moderamen was to determine whether or not the letter belonged on the Calling Church Council's table and whether or not the letter belonged on the table of the Synod. As to whether the letter belonged on the Calling Church Council's table, it can only be pointed out that the letter was also addressed to the Calling Church Council and consequently they had the responsibility to table the letter. The Calling Church Council indicates in their Report that they adjudicated that the Order Proposal was not found receptive.

Oor die vraag of die brief op die tafel van die Sinode hoort, beredeneer die Moderamen soos volg:	On the question of whether the letter belongs on the table of the Synod, the Moderamen argue as follows:
4.1.1 ‘n Ordevoorstel wat die orde van die vergadering wil dien, kan nie by voorbaat by wyse van ‘n brief ter tafel geneem word voordat die vergadering self sy orde en werkswyse bepaal het nie.	4.1.1 An Order Proposal wishing to serve the order of the meeting cannot be tabled in advance by way of a letter until the meeting itself has determined its order and modus operandi.
4.1.2 ‘n Ordevoorstel kan slegs tydens ‘n vergadering, deur ‘n afgevaardigde by die vergadering, gemaak word – wat dan deur die Voorsitter en vergadering beoordeel word.	4.1.2 An Order Proposal may only be made at a meeting, by a delegate at the meeting – which is then adjudicated on by the chairperson and the meeting.
4.2 <u>Aanbeveling</u> Die Sinode besluit dat die brief van GK Waterkloofrand nie ter tafel geneem word nie.	4.2 <u>Recommendation</u> The Synod decided that the letter from GK Waterkloofrand should not be tabled.