

UNITING PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

TERMS OF REFERENCE

MINISTRY COMMITTEE

- (i) To select candidates for the ministry, using criteria and procedures laid down from time to time by the General Assembly;
- (ii) to oversee the academic and practical training and spiritual formation of candidates to the point of ordination;
- (iii) to provide on-going theological training, skills development and spiritual formation for ministers;
- (iv) to communicate and co-operate with other Churches concerning the training of ministers;
- (v) to receive applications from ordained ministers to be admitted to the ministry of the UPCSA and to bring proposals to General Assembly concerning those who meet the requirements for entry into the ministry, as laid down from time to time by the Assembly;
- (vi) to receive applications for credentials of ministers and bring proposals to the General Assembly;
- (vii) to work with the Pastoral Committees of Presbyteries to deal with marital breakdown and divorce in the ministry and to develop pastoral resources for strengthening marriages and dealing with divorce. See Manual, Chapter 5, esp. 5.57 ff;
- (viii) to assist in evaluating the training of candidates of the Order of Lay Preachers as requested by Presbyteries and the Mission and Discipleship Committee (see Manual, paras. 16.166-173);
- (ix) to develop resources for and promote the work of any other forms of ministry not catered for in the Terms of Reference of any other Assembly Committee.
- (x) Take responsibility for the management and monitoring of the post of lecturer/professor at Pretoria University financed on a joint basis with the University;
- (xi) (MMFC) to develop and implement a programme which includes a series of study/reflection sessions over a period of 2-5 years prior to a minister's retirement in order to prepare them for the impact of retirement.
- (xii) to receive applications for secondment of ministers and bring proposals to the General Assembly;
- (xiii) Redefine and develop the mode of training and selection for the ministry of Word and Sacraments, so as to allow for greater emphasis on the Apostolic and Evangelistic gifts;
 - a) the content and shape of training to develop ministers as facilitators and to exercise greater flexibility with regard to
 - i. bi-vocational ministry; and
 - ii. the admission into the ministry of people who have already planted churches.

The General Assembly instructed the Ministry Committee to exercise greater flexibility around the admission of people who have already planted churches into the ministry