

## **DECISIONS OF THE 2024 EXECUTIVE COMMISSION**

### **Assembly Business Committee**

1. The Executive Commission adopts the Standing orders of the 2024 Executive Commission and the ZOOM Etiquette document as contained in the circulated papers, to be the guide for the ordering of its business.
2. The Executive Commission notes the notice of motion procedures as outlined in the body of the Standing Orders.
3. The Executive Commission adopts the proposed Draft Agenda as the final Agenda for the 2024 Executive Commission.
4. The Executive Commission notes that the decisions of the General Assembly 2023 were sent to all the relevant stakeholders for attention and action.
5. The Executive Commission thanks the Central Office team and the Presbytery of Tshwane for hosting and planning for the Executive to meet, in Pretoria.
6. The Executive Commission notes that the General Assembly 2025 will be hosted by the Mthatha Presbytery, (jointly with the JH Soga Memorial Synod, and sets the dates as Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> to Friday 27<sup>th</sup> of June 2025.
7. The Executive Commission appoints the following as facilitating team:  
Drafting Team:
  - Mamolotje Magagane (Convener)
  - Lungile Mpetsheni (GS)
  - Vusi Mkhungo (Clerk)
  - Vusi Mabo
  - Boitumelo Gaborone
  - Sifiso Ndala
  - Lethabo Moloko
  - Ntombokolo CurrieMinutes Clerks: Zwai. Mtyhobile and Moyahabo Phosa.  
Minute Scrutineers: Thembinkosi Nopapaza and Thabane Masikane  
IT Team: Melanie Cook, Christine Kasambara, Ryan Johnson, Theo Groeneveld, and all Presbyteries IT support personnel

## **General Secretary**

1. The Executive Commission requests the Priorities and Resources (P&R) Committee to:
  - a. engage the reflections shared by the General Secretary on his 10 years journey in the office; and
  - b. manage the information by, *inter alia*, referring it to the respective structures and the parts that may be applicable to them.
2. The Executive Commission:
  - a. notes that the senior staff members in the office conduct roadshows in the Presbyteries for the purposes of alignment and capacity building; and
  3. encourages Presbyteries to support the staff in the conduct of the roadshows when they are being visited.
4. The Executive Commission:
  - a. supports the idea of planting trees as one of the ways of marking the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the UPCSA; and
  - b. requests the Church in Society Committee, through its Eco/Environmental Justice Desk to spearhead this campaign, an action that should be continued even after September 2024.
5. The Executive Commission notes that the Central Office:
  - a. procured and fitted a JoJo tank towards an uninterrupted provision of water; and
  - b. procured solar panels to mitigate against the power outages that are caused by the loadshedding.
6. The Executive Commission appreciates the establishment of the Assembly Standing Commission and the progress that the structure is making.
7. The Executive Commission urges the Ministry Committee and the Mission and Discipleship Committee to resuscitate the work on five-fold ministries and bring it to fruition.
8. The Executive Commission instructs the P&R Committee to oversee the

task of compiling the profiles of the ministers and the congregations of the UPCSA.

### ***General Secretary Supplementary***

1. The Executive Commission instructs the Communications Committee to place the chronicle on the website.
2. The Executive Commission instructs the Priorities and Resources Committee and the Church Office and Human Resources Committee to study the chronicle for continuous improvement and implementation of the relevant parts.

## ***GENERAL ASSEMBLY CLUSTER***

### ***Communications Committee***

1. The Executive Commission notes the progress in the implementation of the General Assembly decisions.
2. The Executive Commission notes that there are still some Presbyteries that have not yet appointed Presbytery Communicators, and further instructs them to appoint them before the end of October 2024.
3. The Executive Commission notes with disappointment the slow pace with which our Presbyteries subscribe to the MyPresby IT Church Management System and encourages them to make efforts to subscribe.
4. The Executive Commission encourages Presbyteries in South Africa to conduct workshops for Session Clerks and other interested persons on the Protection of Personal Information Act, 2013 (POPI Act).
5. The Executive Commission encourages Presbytery Clerks and Communicators to provide information about the work done in their Presbyteries, which will be widely shared in the Denomination and beyond.
6. The Executive Commission notes the attempts of the Communications Committee to develop systems that will make it easy for people to find the location of our churches.

## **Church Office and Human Resources Committee Supplementary**

The Executive Commission:

1. endorses the process followed by the COHRC in seeking a candidate for the position of General Secretary.
2. approves the appointment of The Rev Dr George Marchinkowski as the new General Secretary with a remote handover process with the current General Secretary during July and August 2024, and an official starting date of 1 October 2024.

## ***GOVERNANCE AND ADMINISTRATION CLUSTER***

### **Finance Committee**

1. The Executive Commission notes the various financial schedules and reports.
2. The Executive Commission instructs Presbyteries to submit up-to-date reports on non-contributory congregations with reasons for non-compliance, by 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
3. The Executive Commission notes that the Finance Committee together with Rev Dr P Langerman will facilitate the process of establishing the Non-Profit Company for the stand-alone business unit.
4. The Executive Commission again reminds all Presbyteries to assist congregations in transferring the property and obtaining title deeds from their local municipal offices for properties still in the local municipality's name, into the name of the UPCSA.
5. The Executive Commission again instructs all Presbyteries and Congregations who have not submitted certified copies of their title deeds to the Central Office yet, to do so by latest 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024, together with a letter stating they will not sell their property without the consent of both the Presbytery and General Assembly Finance Committee.
6. The Executive Commission again reminds all Presbyteries to assist congregations who have Permission to Occupy certificates in place to

submit these to the Central Office, and where a certificate is not in place, to assist their congregations in obtaining one, and then to submit it to the Central Office by 30<sup>th</sup> November 2024.

7. The Executive Commission instructs the Finance Committee in conjunction with the current Pension Fund Trustee Board, to proceed with the process of converting the South African Pension Fund into an Umbrella Fund.
8. The Executive Commission encourages Presbyteries to invite the Finance Committee to educate members of the fund about the advantages of the Umbrella Fund vs the SA Pension Fund.
9. The Executive Commission instructs the Finance Committee in conjunction with the Manual Committee, to update the Manual regarding how Retirement Benefits are treated in the UPCSA and that the necessary changes are implemented and communicated to all concerned.
10. The Executive Commission notes the work done in closing the Pension Presbyterian Ministers' Pension and Widows and Orphans Fund of Zimbabwe, and to acknowledge that this fund is now officially closed.
11. The Executive Commission endorses its thanks to the Rev Peter Aiken (Principal Officer) and all Trustees of the Presbyterian Ministers' Pension and Widows and Orphans Fund of Zimbabwe for their years' service on the fund.
12. The Executive Commission notes the establishment of a new Pension Fund in Zimbabwe, under the direction and control of the Presbytery of Zimbabwe.
13. The Executive Commission again instructs the Moderator and Treasurer of Zambia to supply a schedule of all Ministers belonging to the Zambia Pension Fund as of 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023, together with a list of Ministers on NAPSA and the Madison's Scheme, with a status for each member showing if their contributions are up to date and paid in full, and to provide reasons for any discrepancies, by 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
14. The Executive Commission notes the work done by General Treasurer and CFO in Presbytery consultations.

15. The Executive Commission endorses thanks to the Investment Committee members.
16. The Executive Commission endorses thanks to those congregations who paid their Ministry Contributions during the past year.
17. The Executive Commission reminds all congregations in all countries of their obligation to pay Ministry Contributions to their Presbytery and to the General Assembly.
18. The Executive Commission approves the FINAL Audited Financial Statements for 12 months for the 2023 financial year-end.
19. The Executive Commission appoints CM and Associates Inc. as auditors for the 2023-2024 financial year.
20. The Executive Commission instructs the finance committee when next it considers appointing auditors to engage with registered auditors within the UPCSA with the view to reducing costs.
21. The Executive Commission approves the Sedibeng Trust audited accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023.
22. The Executive Commission endorses thanks to the Sedibeng Trust for its on-going high levels of compliance and efficiencies.
23. The Executive Commission approves the budget for the 2024 financial year (July 2024 to June 2025) endorsing the need for more stringent financial controls at all levels.
24. The Executive Commission notes the work done by the Guild Cottage and expresses thanks to all involved in its operation.
25. The Executive Commission, considering the desire and intent to hold General Assemblies and Executive Commissions in person, and recognizing the financial constraints of Presbyteries to cover some of the costs for their commissioners:
  - a) instructs all Presbyteries to carry travel and accommodation costs for their commissioners;
  - b) instructs the Finance Committee to create an 'Assembly Fund' for the purpose of holding funds raised specifically to meet the expenses of an in-person Assembly, and

- c) instructs the Finance Committee to invite Presbyteries, congregations, fellowships, and individuals in the UPCSA to donate towards the 'Assembly Fund and source alternate funding, from current and new donors to the UPCSA, specifically for the purpose of holding an in-person Assembly
- d) instructs ABC & Manual Committee to investigate the possibility of reducing numbers
- e) Allow virtual participation for conveners of committees who are not commissioners to General Assembly
- f) Accommodation at member's homes
- g) Using the Assembly fund to assist Presbyteries that might have a shortfall.

26. The Executive Commission endorses thanks to the Pension Fund Chairman, the Pension fund Administrators, the Investment Committee members of the Pension Fund and General Assembly, the Finance and administration team at the Central Office, and all members of the Finance Committee.

**Petition 1:**

The Executive Commission rescinds the decision to hold the Executive Commission meetings and General Assemblies virtually.

**Manual Committee**

1. The Executive Commission instructs the Clerk of Assembly to issue Appendix A, the new Chapter 20, as replacement pages, inserting it into the *Manual of Faith and Order*.
2. The Executive Commission notes that the Manual Committee is ready to collaborate on researching or advising on the implications of Transnationality.
3. The Executive Commission amends para 12.33 of the Manual as follows:
  - a. In the first line, add the words "(or Chaplains)" after the words, "The Moderator's Chaplain" and the words "meeting of General" before the word "Assembly".
  - b. In sub paragraph (d), remove the words "at the opening Communion service, and on" after "should the Moderator so determine, on" and

“other” before the word “occasion.”

- c. Add new sub paragraph (g) “accompanying the Moderator on official visits during the Moderator’s term of office (at the Moderator’s request)” subject to availability of funding;
- d. Add new sub paragraph (h) “keeping contact with the Moderator and the Moderator’s family in a pastoral manner and providing care and spiritual direction as required;”
- e.** Add new sub paragraph (i) “undertaking such pastoral roles as the Moderator requires.”

4. The Executive Commission amends the section of chapter 13 on the Church Office and Human Resources Committee as follows:
  - a. The name of the committee is amended in the title and in paras. 13.51. to 13.54. to “The Church Office and Human Resources Committee.”
  - b. In para 13.51, the words “personnel management” in (a) are amended to “Human Resources” and in (b), the word “personal” are amended to “psychological.”
  - c. In para 13.52, the sentence “The Committee is guided by the Human Resources Manual as adopted by the General Assembly.” is added to the end of the paragraph.
5. The Executive Commission:
  - a. amends paragraph 16.7. by replacing it with para 16.7.1. “In South Africa and Zimbabwe, a Minister retires at the end of the month in which he/she reaches the normal Retirement Age of 65 years, unless otherwise provided for in the Rules of whichever Pension Fund to which she/he belongs. (See the Rules for ministers appointed in South Africa in Appendix C)

**Note:** The rules of the South African Fund provide for a Minister who was a member of the PCSA Pension Fund at 31 December 1999 to retire at the end of the month in which he/she reaches the age of 65 or 68 years and for a Minister who was a member of the RPCSA Pension Fund at 31 December 1999 to retire at the end of the month in which he/she

reaches the age of 68 or 70 years.

- b. adds paragraph 16.7.2, "16.7.2. A minister who is a member of the South African Fund or the Zimbabwean Fund may continue to serve after retirement on a contract basis until the end of the month in which he/she reaches the age of 70 years. The congregation approaches the Presbytery before the minister's normal retirement date with a proposal which must be approved by the Presbytery. In such cases, the minister may remain a member of the Pension Fund with contributions still being borne by both parties. The contract may not be extended beyond the end of the month in which the minister turns 70."
- c. adds paragraph 16.7.3, "16.7.3. In terms of Zambian law, a Minister may retire at the end of the month in which he/she attains the age of sixty (60) years. Additionally, a Minister may choose to retire at any time thereafter, but not later than upon reaching the age of sixty-five (65) years."
- d. adds the line, "The appointment of a Retired minister may not extend that minister's tenure in the congregation from which she/he retired or extend a contract beyond the age of 70." to the end of paragraph 16.168.
- e. adds the words, "serve as Stated Supply in the congregation from which she/he retired" to para 16.173 after the words, "No retired minister may" and before the words, "nor may she/he serve in any one Congregation for more than two years, unless no other alternative exists."

### **Overture 3**

George Presbyterian Church overtures Presbytery that the .pdf paper "Church Planting under Excess Bureaucracy" be sent to the Mission & Discipleship Committee of General Assembly for appropriate reform of UPCSA Manual Chapters 6-10 in order better to assist office bearers of Sessions and Boards of Congregations to prioritise oversight of congregational ministry and not bureaucratic burden fulfillment."

## **NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE**

1. The Executive Commission approves the appointment of the Conveners and Committee members as listed in the Nominations Committee draft report in the Supplementary Papers.
2. The Executive Commission agrees to replace the Rev Robert Thema with the Rev Iain Kemp as a member of the Nominations Committee

## **The Assembly Standing Commission**

1. The Executive Commission notes the work carried out by the Assembly Standing Commission.
2. The Executive Commission encourages Presbyteries to familiarize themselves with the workings of the Assembly Standing Commission.

## **WORSHIP AND PASTORAL CARE CLUSTER**

### **Worship Committee**

1. With regard to the *Questionnaire on Preaching*, the Executive Commission instructs the Clerk:
  - a) to send the section in the Report headed "Preaching: A Questionnaire and a Bibliography" together with the *revised* Questionnaire and Bibliography printed below in Appendix B as a guide to preaching, either by email or by post to every student for the ministry, probationer, minister, lay preacher and preaching Elder in the UPCSA and urge them all to make use of both the questionnaire and the bibliography;
  - b) to see that the revised Questionnaire and the Bibliography on preaching are both placed on the UPCSA website, prefaced by the section introducing them in this Report.
2. The Executive Commission instructs the Ministry Committee:
  - a) to investigate and report to the next Assembly the details of what training in homiletics and actual preaching the various institutions that train our students for the ministry provide for them;
  - b) to recommend the use of the Questionnaire to all these institutions;

- c) to see that the revised Questionnaire is used in the training of every probationer in the UPCSA; and to recommend the bibliography to every probationer in the UPCSA.

### **Health and Wellness Committee**

1. Executive Commission instructs Presbyteries that do not have Health and Wellness Committees to establish same.
2. Executive Commission urges Presbyteries to comply with the decision of 2023 General Assembly which read as follows:
  - a. The General Assembly instructs Presbyteries that have not complied with the establishment of Health and Wellness Committees to do so by 30<sup>th</sup> September 2024.
  - b. Executive Commission instructs all Presbyteries to submit the details of their Presbytery conveners to the GA HWC convener by 30 September 2024.
3. Executive Commission encourages members of the UPCSA with health sector skills and knowledge to make themselves known to the GA HWC by participating in the skills audit by completing their details onto the form attached as Annexure D.
4. Executive Commission notes the HWC Activity Plan for the year 2024 attached as Annexure A.
5. Executive Commission notes the HWC 2024 schedule of meetings attached as Annexure B.

### **Stewardship Committee**

1. That the Executive notes progress on the establishment of stewardship in the Presbytery Councils.
2. That the Executive Commission notes progress in developing a framework for implementation.

## **Priorities and Resources Committee**

1. The Executive Commission notes the work done concerning the reviewed Strategic Plan (2021-2026)
2. The Executive Commission adopts the reviewed Terms of Reference for GA committees as per Annexure A.
3. The Executive Commission notes that the work on Transnationality is in progress and will report a full report at the next General Assembly.

## ***Priorities and Resources Supplementary***

1. The Executive Commission instructs all the Presbyteries who have not submitted responses and those who have submitted unclear responses to submit them by the 30<sup>th</sup> of November 2024.
2. The Executive Commission approves the planned events for the 25<sup>th</sup> Year celebrations.

## **Synod of Zambia Overture**

We approve of the establishment of the East Zambia Presbytery as outlined in the overture and that the Executive Commission instructs the Synod of Zambia to assist the M'chinga Presbytery in setting up the necessary structures.

## ***SERVICE AND WITNESS CLUSTER***

### **Ecumenical Relationships Committee**

1. The Executive Commission
  - a. notes the issues that the church in Zambia is concerned about;
  - b. requests the Church in society Committee to take care of the issues from Zambia that fall in the Committee's domain, namely political, economic and moral issues; and
  - c. congratulates the Synod of Zambia on holding the centenary celebrations successfully.
2. The Executive Commission commends the Presbytery of Zimbabwe for managing ecumenical relationships so diligently nationally and with the

Presbytery of Denver of the PC(USA) and the Eastern Synod of the United Reformed Church.

3. The Executive Commission notes the activities of the SACC with appreciations.
4. The Executive Commission encourages the Presbyteries in South Africa to study, internalise and implement the contents of the CUC and JDDJ in their programmes.
5. The Executive Commission
  - a. notes that the CWM will hold its Assembly in Durban on 12-19 June 2024; and
  - b. notes the issues pertaining to the life and work of the CWM.
6. The Executive Commission notes that the Assembly Standing Commission (ASC) has commissioned a study to identify and apply for the funds.
7. The Executive Commission
  - a. notes that the WCRC Executive Committee will hold its meeting in Grand Rapids, Michigan in May 2024;
  - b. notes that the WCRC General Council will be held in Thailand in 2025; and
  - c. notes that the WCRC General Council will meet in a year in which the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea will be observed.
8. The Executive Commission
  - a. reminds the ABC to include in the 2025 UPCSA General Assembly a slot to reflect on this development; and
  - b. reminds the Doctrine Committee to facilitate reflections on the Nicene creed, as a way of reasserting the relevance of the Nicene Creed in the life of the church.
9. The Executive Commission
  - a. notes that the Council of the ACRC was held in Abuja, Nigeria on 23 – 26 November 2023;
  - b. notes the strategic plan of the ACRC; and
  - c. notes the outcome of the elections (the Executive Committee until 2023).
10. The Executive Commission

- a. notes that the General Assembly of the AACC was held in Abuja, Nigeria on 19 – 23 November 2023;
- b. notes that the Rt Rev Lydia Neshangwe was elected as the first woman President of the AACC for five years (2023 – 2028);
- c. congratulates the Rt Rev Lydia Neshangwe on her election;
- d. notes the resolutions of the Assembly; and
- e. encourages the respective committee to harvest from the resolution the aspects that may be relevant to their work and the General Secretary to assist by distributing such relevant resolutions to the relevant committees.

11. The Executive Commission notes the step taken by the WCC to intervene in the Israel/Palestine situation.
12. The Executive Commission notes that:
  - a. the Rt Rev Lydia Neshangwe represented the UPCSA at the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland in May 2023.
  - b. the Rev SJ Mtetwa, accompanied by Mrs Mtetwa will represent the UPCSA at the General Assembly of the PC(USA) that will be held in June 2024.

### **Joint Commission on Union**

1. The Executive Commission affirms and celebrate the progress that has been made.

### **Ethics and Discipline Committee**

1. Executive Commission again affirms the sanctity of Christian marriage only between a man and a woman.
2. Executive Commission denies the petition requesting that UPCSA Ministers be allowed to bless same sex unions.  
Executive Commission agreed by consensus to refer this proposal back to the Ethics and Discipline Committee.
3. Executive Commission urges all its members to show great sensitivity and pastoral care to all those within the Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals, Transgenders, Queer, Intersex, Asexual Plus=(LGBTQIA+) community.

## **NOTICE OF MOTION OF MOTION 3**

No decision could be made.

### **Church in Society Committee**

1. The Executive Commission commends the Presbytery of Zimbabwe for its diligence in matters of church and society.
2. The Executive Commission encourages the congregations to be active on church and society matters and report to the Presbytery CIS Committees.
3. The Executive Commission notes the involvement of the UPCSA through the CIS Committee in the activities leading to the successful holding of the national and provincial elections in South Africa.
4. The Executive Commission urges the congregations, councils and fellowships engage with and internalise the plan to address the inequalities and iniquities (injustices).
5. The Executive Commission notes the following operational plan of the committee:
  - a. The first men's gathering/conference in 2025 will be held, dates and venue to be communicated in due time.
  - b. The first women's gathering/conference to be held later in 2025 dates, time and venue to be communicated when confirmations are done.
  - c. The reconnection seminar for ministers of the UPCSA in 2025.
6. The Executive Commission notes the theme for 2024: "You are God's masterpiece" and the bible studies that are planned for the rest of 2024.
7. The Executive Commission instructs the Manual Committee to insert the Gender Justice Policy in the Manual of Faith and Order.
8. The Executive Commission
  - a) receives the Sexual Harassment Policy;
  - b) sends it to all Presbyteries for comments;
  - c) instructs Presbyteries to submit their comments to the committee by 28 February 2025; and
  - d) instructs the committee to submit the final draft to the 2025 General Assembly for approval.

## **Church Fellowships Committee**

1. The Executive Commission notes with appreciation the work done by the fellowships.
2. The Executive Commission thanks the Fellowship of Women and the Fellowship of Youth for the donations they have made towards the programs of the denomination.
3. The Executive Commission notes with appreciation the commitment of the fellowships to adhere to all the compliance requirements.
4. The Executive Commission supports the commitment made by the fellowships to promote revival in the denomination.
5. The Executive Commission encourages fellowships to prioritise revival/spiritual growth in their conferences.

## **People with Disabilities Committee**

1. The Executive Commission notes that the Committee is planning to engage with the presbyteries and the congregations.
2. The Executive Commission notes:
  - a. with concern about the lack of handrails and ramps in the surveyed congregations and instructs all congregations to become compliant.
  - b. urges Presbyteries to seek training/ orientation for Ministers in working with and promoting accessibility for persons with disabilities.
3. The Executive Commission notes that the Committee is following the work that is being done in Masvingo, Zimbabwe.

## ***PREACHING AND TEACHING CLUSTER***

### **Mission and Discipleship Committee**

1. Executive Commission sets aside October as the Month of Mission, encourages its ministers to make use of the preaching plan that will be

circulated in August and recommends the daily devotions to all members.

2. Executive Commission urges Presbyteries to use the Shared Ministry Guidelines when considering Shared Ministry.
3. The Executive Commission encourages Presbyteries to do succession planning of the Conveners of MAD committees in a way that will preserve institutional memory.

### **Ministry Committee**

1. The Executive Commission notes that UPCSA has 24 students in different institutions of higher learning.
2. The Executive Commission notes that the 2024 Discernment Conference was held physically in Gauteng from the 29<sup>th</sup> May to the 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2024.
3. The Executive Commission notes that all candidates that were invited to participate in the Discernment Conference were transported by their sending Presbyteries.
4. The Executive Commission notes that nine Probationers out of ten have been placed, with the exception of Mr Mpho Matlala.
5. The Executive Commission notes that the next Post Academic Training will be held within the bounds of the Synod of Zambia in September 2024.
6. The Executive Commission notes that Bandile Ngubane is removed from the list of probationers and as a Ministry student for the UPCSA.
7. The Executive Commission seconds the Rev Khanyiswa Minya as a Chaplain in the South African National Defence Force (SANDF).
8. The Executive Commission seconds the Rev Nobuhle Mbatha as a Chaplain in the South African Police Services (SAPS).
9. The Executive Commission notes that the case against Eric Masikane is under the capable hands of the Moderator of the General Assembly and the uThukela Presbytery. A full report will be given to the 2025 General Assembly.

10. The Executive Commission notes the removal of the following non-performing students from the list of students of the UPCSA, viz. Lydia Lebesa, Eric Mata, Letsatsi Mokheseng, Monde Mzongwana and Nkululeko Mntungwa.

11. The Executive Commission agrees:

- a. that the cut off age for new applicants from 2025 onwards, to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament of the UPCSA should be set at 55 years of age, and that any case of exception be recommended to the Assembly for approval.
- b. that the decision of the cut off age applies to Ministers applying from other denominations too, and that any case of exception to be recommended to the Assembly for approval.

12. The Executive Commission notes that candidates who attend the Discernment Conference and are recognised as Ministry students of the Word and Sacrament of the UPCSA from 2024 will have to fund their own studies.

**THE EXECUTIVE COMMISSION AGREED BY CONSENSUS TO REFER THIS PROPOSAL TO THE MINISTRY COMMITTEE TO WORK ON THE MODALITIES – TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION THE VIEWS RAISED.**

13. The Executive Commission agrees

- a. that students will follow the curriculum that will be prescribed by the Ministry Committee,
- b. that the Sedibeng House of Studies and the University of Pretoria will be a priority institution for all the recognised students in RSA.

14. Executive Commission agrees that all applicants to be recognised for the Ministry of Word and Sacrament from 2024 will apply as full-time applicants.

**THE EXECUTIVE COMMISSION AGREED BY CONSENSUS TO REFER THIS PROPOSAL BACK TO THE MINISTRY COMMITTEE FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION**

***Ministry Committee Supplementary***

1. The Executive Commission approves the names of the students as outlined in the report.
2. The Executive Commission notes the names of those deferred candidates.

3. The Executive Commission instructs the Central Cape Presbytery to grant a seat to Rev N Khalipha and Rev L Saule.
4. The Executive Commission instructs the Presbytery of the Central Cape to formally write a letter of apology to the two Ministers for the treatment they had received.
5. The Executive Commission removes the name of the Rev Andrew Prior from the list of seconded ministers (16.128 b).
6. The Executive Commission grants a seat to the Rev H Fortuin on the Presbytery of the Western Cape.
7. The Executive Commission provisionally admits the Rev M Badi to the UPCSA ministry of Word and Sacrament as per Manual of Faith and Order 17.55.

### **Overture 5**

The Executive Commission agreed by CONSENSUS to refer Overture 5 to the Ministry Committee for study and possible recommendations to the 2025 General Assembly.

### **Education and Training Committee**

1. The Executive Commission acknowledges, and thanks ministers and congregations involved in the schools of UPCSA.
2. The Executive Commission thanks those who have made contributions to PEF and encourages others to do the same.
3. The Executive Commission reminds our congregations and congregants about PEF Sunday in June 2025.
4. The Executive Commission encourages all congregations, fellowships and individuals to make donations to PEF.
5. The Executive Commission encourages all ministers and parents of children applying to PEF are encouraged by the executive commission to assist with application forms and to regularly supply all required documentation.

## **Doctrine Committee**

1. The Executive Commission notes the scope of work that the Committee is dealing with.

## **Doctrine Supplementary**

1. The Executive Commission notes the suggestions in the Report concerning the amendment to Article 5.3 of the Confession of Faith and its enactment.
2. The Executive Commission instructs the webmaster (in consultation with the Task Team convener) to bring the version of the UPCSA Confession of Faith in the UPCSA website up to date.
3. The Executive Commission
  - a)notes the comments of the Task Team on the questions concerning the relation between the Word of God and Scripture that the Doctrine Committee Report raises, and
  - b)refers them to the Doctrine Committee.
4. The Executive Commission notes that work on the question of the inclusion of the *filioque* in the Nicene Creed is proceeding.

## **OVERTURE 1**

The Executive Commission agreed by CONSENSUS to refer the overture 1 to the Doctrine Committee for study and report to the 2025 General Assembly.

## **OVERTURE 2**

The Executive Commission agreed by CONSENSUS to refer the overture 2 to the Doctrine Committee for study and report to the 2025 General Assembly.