

.....

SECTION V : DOCUMENTATION

DRAFT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE NEDERDUIITSE GEREFORMEERDE KERK AND THE
NEDERDUIITSE GEREFORMEERDE KERK IN AFRIKA REGARDING THE POSITION OF
WHITE MINISTERS IN THE NEDERDUIITSE GEREFORMEERDE KERK IN AFRIKA

1. INTRODUCTORY

- 1.1 The mission Regulation of the Nederduitse Gereformeerde Kerk is not an agreement between the NG Kerk and other churches in the NG family but is only a clear statement of the point of view of the NG Kerk.

The General Synod of the NG Kerk can indeed amend its provisions from time to time in order to give better expression to existing agreements or mutual agreements reached between the NG Kerk and churches in the NG family.

- 1.2 It is within the competence of the NG Kerk to stipulate the conditions under which personnel are made available to the NG Kerk in Afrika.

- 1.3 It is within the competence of the NG Kerk in Afrika which wishes to make use of personnel from other churches, to stipulate its own conditions of service.

2. The relevant conditions for the NG Kerk and the NG Kerk in Afrika are set out in the following agreement between the churches, namely:

- 2.1 The NG Kerk makes ministers of the Word available for service in the NG Kerk in Afrika.

- 2.2 The NG Kerk in Afrika accepts the licensing of the NG Kerk.

- 2.3 The calling and ordination of a licensed person from the NG Kerk and his eventual posting are made according to the decisions of the NG Kerk in Afrika and the stipulation of the regional synod concerned.

- 2.4 By his ordination in a congregation of the NG Kerk in Afrika a person who accepts a call there becomes a member of the congregation concerned.

- 2.5 The church council (kerkraad) of the congregation of the NG Kerk in Afrika where he is such a member can give him permission to apply to the church council of the NG Kerk congregation concerned to also receive the sacraments there.

- 2.6 The stipend, allowances, housing and pension benefits of such licensed persons are stipulated when the person is called, as agreed between the relevant bodies of the NG Kerk in Afrika and the NG Kerk.

.....

- 2.7 Matters of supervision and discipline are handled in accordance with the stipulations of regional synods of the NG Kerk in Afrika.
- 2.8 When the application of discipline takes the form of suspension from service, or when the bond between minister and congregation is loosened, then his membership of the NG Kerk in Afrika ends and the documents are sent to the relevant circuit of the NG Kerk for their information and further action.
- 2.9 When the application of discipline takes the form of sacking then the deeds of licensing will be withdrawn only by the NG Kerk.
3.
 - 3.1 All existing agreements between the General Synod or other Synods of the NG Kerk and the NG Kerk in Afrika remain in force until they are amended or abolished with mutual approval.
 - 3.2 Any licensed person of the NG Kerk who, after the approval by both churches of this agreement, accepts a call to a congregation of the NG Kerk in Afrika, is bound by the conditions laid down by the NG Kerk in Afrika, insofar as they concern his service in the NG Kerk in Afrika.
 - 3.3 Ministers who, on the date when these conditions come into operation, are in the service of the NG Kerk in Afrika, can choose whether they wish to continue their service under the new conditions or under the old church regulations. In either case they remain voting members of church meetings of the NG Kerk in Afrika.
 - 3.4 Personnel in the service of the NG Kerk in Afrika are encouraged to accept the new conditions of service of the NG Kerk in Afrika where they are already working.
4. The Missionary call of the NG Kerk and the NG Kerk in Afrika.
 - 4.1 It remains the calling of both the NG Kerk and the NG Kerk in Afrika to fulfil their scriptural missionary calling.
 - 4.2 Where this missionary calling is carried out by one or both of the abovementioned churches in the jurisdiction of the other church, it will be arranged according to circumstances always with strict adherence and according to mutual agreements.