

To the Synod of the Free Reformed Churches in South Africa 2017

Report of Deputies for Correspondence with the Government

Dear brothers,

It is with sincere regret that the *Deputies for Correspondence with the Government* have to report to you that these deputies have not functioned since Synod 2014. Deputies failed in taking action as mandated by Synod 2014. This does not mean that there were no specific opportunities or government actions on which deputies could respond. The only reasons for failure are the overloaded work programme of the deputies with other more important obligations in work and church as well as ill-health.

It is our proposal that new deputies be appointed who are not involved in other offices of deputy.

We also recommend that the mandates given to Deputies for Correspondence with the Government by Synod 2014 be given to the new deputies:

- a. In matters pertaining to the interest of the country, in happiness or in sorrow, depending on the circumstances, to condole with or congratulate the government, whether nationally, provincially or locally.
- b. To react appropriately on government measures, whether nationally, provincially or locally, that compromise the protection of the preaching of the Gospel.
- c. To testify to government in cases where the government, whether nationally, provincially or locally, transgress the universal law of God.
- d. To reflect on the specific nature and function of the mandate to testify to government and to report thereon to the next synod.
- e. To receive requests from government, whether nationally, provincially and locally, and to make such requests known to the churches.
- f. To stimulate, inform and monitor the congregations within the FRCSA to promote an active approach to government, whether nationally, provincially or locally, and investigate the possibility to react to the invitation from government on new and revised laws.
- g. To stay in contact with churches, the Parliamentary Desk, Christian initiatives and political parties regarding the furthering of our goals using the most appropriate way of co-operation.
- h. To submit an interim report for discussion during an Indaba to be held end 2015 or beginning 2016.
- i. To report to the next synod and formulate recommendations according to Article 11 of the Rules of Synod.

We pray for God's wisdom and His blessings on your work as Synod.

With Christian greetings,



G Hagg (convener)



Rev F Magagula



Br TW Tamane

Date: