

Report to Synod Belhar 2021 from Deputies Theological Training (Deputies Curators)

Amendments to Report of Deputies Curators with regard to budget deficits and references to funding from MDSA, Mission Board and ZAM

Background

In the Deputies Curators' (DC) Report financial deficits of DC are discussed with reference to funding by MDSA, Mission Board and ZAM, under several headings. MDSA representatives discussed these parts of the Report with DC on 16 March 2021 and highlighted incorrectness or incompleteness of information as follows:

1. In early 2017 the need for assistance from Rev Breytenbach [in the mission field] was discussed during a number of meetings with all stakeholders. It was agreed that Rev Breytenbach's mission support would be managed and funded by the Mission Committee (formerly Mission Board) of FRC Pretoria-Maranata. It was agreed that Rev Breytenbach would be paid on a contract basis for the mission related work, as per time spent on mission-related work. Payment would come from the church council of Pretoria-Maranata, with funds from MDSA/ZAM.
2. As from 1 June 2017 Maranata's Mission Committee allocated projects to Rev Breytenbach in its Strategic Mission Plan, and determined time allocation per project. The accumulated time was then planned as a percentage of Rev Breytenbach's total time (100%). As the Mission Committee's need for Rev Breytenbach's services subsequently decreased, his involvement in the mission field decreased from a planned 40% to 0% in 2020. This decrease was planned by church council of Pretoria-Maranata in its Strategic Mission plans and budgets (annual - and 5 year budgets).
3. The statement made in the Curators' report that the reduction in MDSA contribution from 40% to 0% was due to less money being available from the Netherlands (ZAM) was never given as a reason by MDSA. MDSA was informed in October 2017 by ZAM about the change in policy i.e. 4 months after the new agreement on Rev. Breytenbach's involvement in mission work was reached.

Amendments to the DC Report

Based on the discussion of 16 March 2021 DC submit the following Amendments to their Report with apologies to MDSA and ZAM.

Page Number	Current text	Amendment
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Due to the decreasing financial support for mission work from the Netherlands since 2018, the Mission Board could not fund Rev Breytenbach anymore and ended his involvement in the mission work in 2019.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As foreseen in the Pretoria-Maranata Mission Committee's planning, Rev Breytenbach's work in the mission field decreased and ended in 2019. As a result the contribution of the Mission Committee to Rev Breytenbach's stipend, which was based on MDSA/ZAM funding, stopped, resulting in budget deficits of DC.
6 Point 11.2		Add second bullet: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• We are most thankful for the financial support that was provided by our sister

		churches in the Netherlands; this occurred, firstly, through ZAM funding of Rev Breytenbach's work in the mission field, and, secondly, the funding of our students from the mission churches through Deputies Needy Students (Art 11) at R100,000 per year for many year. The Lord who governs his church world-wide, has made DC benefit from the care and love of our brothers and sisters in the Netherlands over several years; without this funding it would be impossible to execute our mandate.
P. 6: Point 11.2, 4 th bullet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It must be noted that, while the budget as approved by synod was not sufficient to cover the cost of an anchor theologian, the same applied to the costs of the mentors, particularly the unbudgeted full-time costs of Rev Breytenbach after the Mission Board ended their contribution. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It must be noted that, while the budget as approved by synod was not sufficient to cover the cost of an anchor theologian, the same applied to the costs of the mentors, particularly the unbudgeted full-time costs of Rev Breytenbach after the Mission Committee ended its contribution.
P. 6: Point 11.2, 5 th bullet	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The ending of financial contribution of R250,000 per year by the Mission Board, which made the curators responsible for these funds as part of Rev Breytenbach's stipend;</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>The ending of financial contribution of R250,000 per year by the Mission Committee, which made the curators responsible for these funds as part of Rev Breytenbach's stipend;</i>
P. 20	The shortages were due to unforeseen and unbudgeted expenses (R300 000 for both 2019 and 2020) towards Ds Breytenbach retirement fund and secondly due to the reduction in contributions received from the Mission Deputies since 2019. As agreed upon in the Agreement of Cooperation (7 October 2016), Missions Deputies agreed to contribute 40% of the costs towards Ds Breytenbach. This was however reduced to 20% in 2019 and 0% in 2020, due to a reduction in funds from the Netherlands.	The shortages were due to unforeseen and unbudgeted expenses (R300 000 for both 2019 and 2020) towards Rev Breytenbach's retirement fund and, secondly, due to the reduction in work for the Mission Committee of Pretoria-Maranata and reduced income as a result, since 2019.
P. 20	Furthermore, the Curators would like to express their appreciation for the donations from our sister churches from FRCA.	Furthermore, the Curators would like to express their appreciation for the donations from our sister churches from the GKv Netherlands, FRCA and from CRTS.