

S2.4 ECUMENICAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION

STATUS

S2.4.1 These By-Laws provide for the exercise of the powers of the Synod in regard to relationships with other denominations and other faiths.

ECUMENICAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION

S2.4.2 In accordance with Constitution Paragraph 32, the Synod has established the Ecumenical Affairs Commission, hereinafter referred to as "the Commission".

MEMBERSHIP

S2.4.3 The Commission is appointed by each ordinary Synod and consists of:

- (a) a Convener;
- (b) the General Secretary; and
- (c) up to eight other persons.

S2.4.4 The Commission may co-opt up to two further members to ensure balanced representation or to provide the Commission with knowledge, abilities or experience not otherwise available to the Commission.

PURPOSE

S2.4.5 The purpose of the Commission is to promote the Church's commitment to Christian Unity and ecumenicity by:

- (a) keeping the ecumenical question before the Church;
- (b) providing resources for local discussion regarding ecumenical co-operation;
- (c) keeping the Church informed of ecumenical activities locally, nationally and internationally;
- (d) representing the Synod in ecumenical activities and discussions as requested;
- (e) liaising with the Assembly's dialogues with other denominations;
- (f) promoting and supporting the activities of the World Council of Churches, National Council of Churches of Australia and the Council of Churches of Western Australia;
- (g) encouraging dialogue with other faiths; and
- (h) maintaining links with the Council of Christians and Jews.

RESPONSIBILITIES

S2.4.6 The Commission will:

- (a) provide representatives for, and encourage the initiation of, inter-church and inter-faith dialogues;
- (b) regularly produce reports for presbyteries;
- (c) encourage the sharing of news of ecumenical activities; and
- (d) be responsible to the Synod Standing Committee for the appointing of representatives to:

- i. Council of Churches of Western Australia.
- ii. World Day of Prayer Commission.
- iii. Bible Society.
- iv. Australian Church Women State Unit.
- v. any other group, as requested by the Synod Standing Committee.

MEETINGS AND REPORTING

S2.4.7 The Commission will:

- (a) meet at least six times each year;
- (b) report to and provide representation at the annual National Christian Unity Working Group Conference; and
- (c) report to the Synod at each ordinary meeting and to the Synod Standing Committee as requested or when necessary.