

### **S3.4 COVENANTING COMMISSION**

#### **NAME**

S3.4.1 The name of the Commission is the "Covenanting Commission", a commission appointed by and responsible to the Synod of Western Australia, hereinafter referred to as "the Commission".

#### **MEMBERSHIP**

S3.4.2 The Commission is appointed by the Synod and consists of:

- (a) one or two members of the Church Office staff with responsibilities relating to the work of the Commission, selected by the General Secretary;
- (b) the Moderator;
- (c) the Chairperson of the WA Regional Committee of the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress;
- (d) up to five persons elected by the WA Regional Committee of the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress ("the Congress"); and
- (e) up to five persons elected annually by the Synod.

S3.4.3 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.

S3.4.4 No Church Office staff, other than those selected by the General Secretary, will be members of the Commission but the Commission may invite any member of the Church Office staff to be present and speak to assist the Commission in the fulfilling of its tasks and responsibilities.

#### **CHAIRPERSONS**

S3.4.5 The Moderator and the Chair of the WA Regional Committee of Congress shall be Co-Chairpersons of the Commission. They shall chair alternate meetings and the one not presiding, if present, shall sit by the Chair for consultation and in support. The Co-Chairperson who presided at the last meeting of the Commission shall fulfil the role of Chairperson in consultation with the other Co-Chairperson until the Commission next meets.

#### **PURPOSE**

S3.4.6 The purpose of the Commission is:

- (a) to provide an interaction between the work of the Congress, the Synod and all Presbyteries in the Synod;
- (b) to encourage and assist congregations, agencies and other activities of the Uniting Church to be involved in the ministry of reconciliation between Aboriginal and Islander people and the other parts of the Uniting Church and the community.

**RESPONSIBILITIES**

S3.4.7 The Commission is authorised and delegated to act on behalf of the Synod in:

- (a) developing relationships with the Congress;
- (b) promoting the work of the Congress among the congregations, agencies and other activities of the Uniting Church;
- (c) seeking the support of the Church for the work of the Congress;
- (d) encouraging and assisting congregations, agencies and other activities of the Uniting Church to be involved in the ministry of reconciliation between Aboriginal and Islander people and the other parts of the Uniting Church and the community.

**MEETINGS AND REPORTING**

S3.4.8 The Commission will:

- (a) meet at least four times each year; and
- (b) report to the Synod at each ordinary meeting and to the Synod Standing Committee and WA Regional Committee of the Uniting Aboriginal and Islander Christian Congress as requested or when necessary.