

## **STATEMENT OF THE BLACK CONSULTATION 31<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL MEETING HELD AT FORT HARE UNIVERSITY IN ALICE: 6-9 JULY 2006**

The BMC Connexional consultation meeting in Fort Hare University in its 31<sup>st</sup> annual conference in Alice from the 6-9 July 2006, under the theme: "Burning bush but not consumed" boldly proclaim that the burning bush that is the BMC will never be consumed.

We met recognizing that the University of Fort Hare is celebrating 90 years of outstanding service to the African continent. We celebrate this great institution and further commend it to God.

We also celebrate with South Africa the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of youth courage and sacrifice. We give honor to those who sacrificed their lives for freedom on June 16 1976. Consultation further bowed its collective head in saluting the heroines who marched to the Union Buildings in Pretoria 50 years ago.

In dealing with its life and purpose, consultation had to reflect on the following areas:

1. The internal life of the BMC as it affects its public image and functioning.
2. The transformation of the MCSA.
3. Black unity in the MCSA
4. Formulation of strategy and Agenda on the MCSA
5. Partnership with the MCSA.

As consultation further engaged on its work Poverty, Landlessness, HIV/Aids, Africanization became social concerns that the movement has to reflect it's mind and design programs on.

As its duty consultation accepted the financial state the movement with a strong call for financial accountability that gives due regard and respect to the highest ethical standard of accounting. Consultation adopted a finance policy so as to guide its financial activities.

Celebrating the life of those who lived amongst us, but are departed, as members of this movement consultation took time to remember them. As we remembered our own members we also saluted a great son of the continent with his wife, the Bishop Siggibo Dwane.

In worshiping the living God consultation was challenged to engage the wilderness experience as a moment of expectation from a God who is unpredictable and uncontrollable. In continuing this process it became clear that the God of grace and acceptance has to touch our individual and communal lives for healing. The Church has to find an instrument that can help it facilitate greater healing and reconciliation amongst its members.

The Consultation was further challenged to deal with issues like;

1. Setting the Agenda of the BMC and ultimately the Church. Is the BMC not serving the Elite?
2. Economic and justice issues; Procurement processes of the MCSA
3. Lack of support for the HIV/Aids program of the MCSA.
4. Africanization and the question of Indigenous knowledge systems.
5. Current issues of the MCSA like Human Sexuality
6. Covert racism and overt sexism
7. Leadership development.

The stipend issues as it reflect itself in the disparities that exist amongst our ministers continue to occupy the mind of consultation. It became clear that the debate has to continue with the intention of searching for equity, fairness, compassion and justice. A commission is set up to process the discussion so as to influence the MCSA discussion process.

BMC was reminded of the need to continue to use their black consciousness as the primary tool to interpret their reality and experience. We need to affirm that we are Black, African and Beautiful. This consciousness has to remain an all pervasive force that must be freed from mainstream political contestation.

A process that looks at how best, both economically and morally, to invest the movement's monies was started with an investment opportunities investigation through a committee. This process has to go through the districts, February meeting and 2007 consultation.

A call was made to consultation to help the MCSA, as a matter of urgency, to deal with the Following.

1. Conflict prevention and management. This drains the resources of the church financial and human.
2. The time it takes the MCSA in making decisions need to be looked at as it seems to take too long.
3. Policy formulation
4. Finding new and creative ways of doing ministry that will respond well in the present time with its challenges.

Consultation recognizing the gift of this continent gave thanks to God for being African. In moment of celebration consultation was mindful of the pain that is part of the present reality of Africa. Through prayer Africa was commended to God. Consultation also recognize signs of hope that need to be grasped as we travel through the storms of Africa. We need to have faith in the future of Africa regardless of apparent failures sometimes from those who lead us.

Consultation in dealing with its work emphasized that :

- Internally we have to make sure that our communication is always improved. That clarity of purpose and program is communicated consistently and effectively. Our Districts have to make sure that they are better placed to communicate effectively within themselves and the connexion.
- The movement has to make sure that it has publicly visible and easily recognizable symbols and signs that communicate effectively what it is about.
- The growth and sustainability of movement has to be enhanced so that we develop the intellectual capacity of the movement whilst at the same time growing the numbers. This also means we have to engage effectively with the level of participation of the clergy in the movement.
- We have to organize our business within the official gatherings of consultation so that these meetings play their appropriate and most effective roles in pursuance of the overall objectives of the movement.
- The BMC has to formulate a strategy that allows it to contest the setting of the Agenda and mission strategies of the MCSA more proactive and effectively.
- The transformation agenda has to take priority in all the work of the BMC and MCSA, with issues like Gender, language, ageism, tribalism getting immediate attention.
- Consultation resolved to initiate a campaign on women emancipation and empowerment.

Consultation further resolved to call on the MCSA to have a standardized format of district reports that go to the connexion emphasizing that this report must have the approval of the District Executive.

In dealing with the need to empower people with theological education consultation decided to open the bursary fund to all who wish to pursue theological training.

Noting the debate that is occupying South Africa as reflected in the recently released document on the life patterns of that nation by the country's presidency, Consultation resolved to engage this debate through a connexional committee which is to lead consultation on these discussions. Whilst at the same time districts are also encouraged to do their own engagements.

Consultation noted the need to continue the conversation on ministerial formation in the MCSA.

Consultation with pride honored those who made a special contribution to the upliftment of black people in different spheres of our life through the awards ceremony. Districts that showed greater commitment and functioning were also recognized.

With great joy and celebration members gave to the work of God through the Ernest Baartman Fund and were able to raise R105 493. 00

As we rise today we are inspired by the reminder that we are a burning bush that cannot be consumed. We will go through the fire but the fire cannot consume us. The scars are not important but the fact that we are refined, transformed and purified is what gives us hope. His grace surrounds us as we go through the fire.

As this movement we are confident in the need for our continued existence. We are proud that we are Black and seek no ones approval of who we are. We will assert our right to define the future of the church under the guidance of Mvelinqangi, Modimo, uQamata. The MCSA is OUR inheritance, we will claim it. THE MCSA! ILIFA LABAZALI BETHU. THE MCSA! LEFA LABATSWADI BA RONA.

**MINUTES OF CONNEXIONAL BLACK METHODIST CONSULTATION  
HELD AT THE UNIVERSITY OF FORT HARE, ALICE CAMPUS  
GRAHAMSTOWN DISTRICT FROM 06<sup>TH</sup> – 9<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2006**

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## **1. OPENING CEREMONIES**

### **1.1 Miscellaneous**

The Connexional Chairperson, Rev. Selby Madwe briefly greeted the Consultation. He apologised for not being able to be with the meeting during its opening session as he had to officiate in a funeral within the circuit. The former Chairperson, Rev. Linda Mandindi was therefore requested to preside over the meeting in Rev. Madwe's absence.

### **1.2 Devotions**

The Secretary General led the devotions. Charles Wesley hymn, O for a thousand tongues to sing was sung in 3 languages simultaneously and Rev Sephapo Sephapo invited the presence of God in the Consultation through prayer. The scripture was read from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 4<sup>7-16</sup>.

In setting the tone, the Secretary General made a few comments reminding the meeting of its purpose. He urged the members of the consultation to move in unison with a great sense of commitment and cooperation.

### **1.3 Welcoming**

Rev. Zipho Siwa, the Bishop of the Grahamstown District made welcoming remarks. In his remarks he was reminded that it was 11 years ago when he stood in the same podium to do the same then as the District Chairperson. He accepted the call with humility that he now was standing as the District Bishop and probably he would be a supernumerary enjoying last days of life, in the next consultation to be hosted by the same district in 11 years to come.

The Bishop sensitized the consultation that black people are still dehumanized. In clarifying his point he shared an article from a newsletter of the Lovedale press that says "Christianity is made to put a kaffir in a way to keep him moving". As black people we are laborers of those who enjoy the fruits and riches. He urged members of the BMC to be change agents for our people who are the poorest of the poor and carriers of the word. He reminded the consultation that it is not yet "UHURU". Things that have dehumanized blacks are still a reality even today. Rev. Siwa expressed his hope that the meeting in Alice would act as a source to reenergize us as we go back to our various places to become catalysts for change.

### **1.4 Constitution of the Consultation**

#### **1.4.1 Roll Call**

The following districts were represented in the Consultation.

- Cape of Good Hope
- Central
- Clarkebury
- Grahamstown
- Highveld and Swaziland
- Kimberley Namibia and Bloemfontein
- Limpopo
- Natal Coastal
- Natal West

- Northern Free State and Lesotho
- Queenstown District

It was noted that it was for the first time in a while that all the districts of the connexion with the exception of Mozambique were in the consultation. It was further noted with excitement that the attendance by ministers was overwhelming.

#### 1.4.2 Acknowledgement of Church Leaders and other Guests

- |                                   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| ○ Rev I. Abrahams                 | Presiding Bishop                        |
| ○ Rev V. Nyobole                  | Executive Secretary                     |
| ○ Rev Z. Siwa                     | Bishop - Grahamstown                    |
| ○ Rev M. Noqayi                   | Bishop – Queenstown                     |
| ○ Rev G. Vika                     | Director – Mission Unit                 |
| ○ Rev. V. Mehana                  | Convenor – Mediation Panel              |
| ○ Rev R. Govendor                 | Vice Chairperson – Natal Coastal        |
| ○ Rev S. Sephapo                  | Vice Chairperson – Central              |
| ○ Ms. M. Mekane                   | Lay Rep – Highveld & Swaziland          |
| ○ Mr. T. Khodumo                  | Lay Rep – K N B                         |
| ○ Dr. G. Zide                     | Lay Rep – Grahamstown                   |
| ○ Rev M Xundu                     | Chairperson – ECPCC - Guest             |
| ○ Rev. T. Klass                   | SACC - Guest                            |
| ○ Rev. Dr. G Khabela              | UPC – Guest                             |
| ○ Rev. Dr. L. Lebaka – Ketshabile | Guest                                   |
| ○ Rev. K. Ketshabile              | Visitor                                 |
| ○ Dr. M. Tom                      | DVC – UFH – Guest                       |
| ○ Mr. N. Balfour and wife         | Min. of Correctional Service - Visitors |

#### 1.4.3 Apologies

- |                           |                      |
|---------------------------|----------------------|
| ○ Bishop Abel Mnaba       | Clarkebury           |
| ○ Bishop Daniel Ndzimande | Natal West           |
| ○ Bishop Andrew Hefkie    | Cape of Good Hope    |
| ○ Bishop Jongi Mdaka      | K N B                |
| ○ Rev L. G. Sifo          | Grahamstown          |
| ○ Rev W. Mabuza           | Central              |
| ○ Ms. M. Mbuli            | Central              |
| ○ Ms. L. Leeuw            | Highveld & Swaziland |
| ○ Ms. Z. B. Caba          | Queenstown           |

#### 1.4.4 Appointment of Committees

##### 1.4.4.1 Listening Committee

- |                   |          |
|-------------------|----------|
| ○ Rev M. Molo     | Convenor |
| ○ Ms. F. Mapoma   |          |
| ○ Rev L. Mantini  |          |
| ○ Ms. Z. Ngubo    |          |
| ○ Ms. S. Mhlabeni |          |

##### 1.4.4.2 Resolutions

- |                       |          |
|-----------------------|----------|
| ○ Rev. R. S. Mokgothu | Convenor |
| ○ Ms. A. Mjali        |          |
| ○ Ms. L. Pitso        |          |
| ○ Ms. M. Moremi       |          |
| ○ Rev. M. Morokane    |          |

#### **1.4.4.3 Evaluation**

- Mr. M. Krexe Convenor
- Mr. S Phewa
- Ms. N. Aphane
- Rev M. Sibeko

#### **1.4.4.4 Awards**

- Ms. M Mbuli Convenor
- Mr. J. Mavuso
- Ms. S. Seitesho

The Secretary General announced that this committee had begun its task outside consultation and that it would continue at consultation under Mr. Mavuso as Convenor as Ms Mbuli had apologized.

#### **1.4.4.5 Chaplaincy**

- Ms. P. Mofokeng Convenor
- Ms. Z. G. Caba
- Rev. J. Mahlasela
- Dr. T. Mbetse

#### **1.4.4.6 Media Correspondent**

- Mr. P. Nhlapo

#### **1.4.4.7 Letter Writer**

- The Secretary General and the Assistant would be responsible

#### **1.4.4.8 Time Keeper/s**

- Ms. P. Mgidi
- Mr. X. Msizi

#### **1.4.4.9 Precentors**

- Ms. T. Khoza Convenor
- Ms. N. Ndaba
- Ms. Z. Nkosi
- Rev. M. Makhumsha
- Rev. S. Mothlodi

### **1.5 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the University of Fort Hare**

The 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Consultation observed a moment of celebration in honor of the 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the University of Fort Hare. The Deputy Vice Chancellor, the Executive Secretary and the Chairperson of the BMC cut the celebration cake.

### **1.6 Address by the Connexional Chairperson**

Sotho Hymn 183 was sung and Rev Vithi prayed in welcoming the Chairperson to address the consultation.

The Chairperson's address was anchored in Exodus 3<sup>1-6</sup> being the source of the consultation theme, 'Burning Bush but not consumed'.

Rev. Madwe reminded the consultation that Moses received the call through the burning bush when in exile on Mt. Horeb. He reminded the consultation that the God who called Moses was the One Who called Seth Mokitimi and all the veterans of Methodism. He further reminded the BMC that God is always in the side of the dehumanized. He alluded to an

extremely high rate of poverty and unemployment in our country. He further appealed to consultation to intercede for those affected and infected by the HIV /AIDS pandemic .

## **2. FRATERNAL GREETINGS**

Fraternal greetings were received from the following

- Mr. N Muchopa Racial Justice Office of the British Methodist Conference
- Bp. M. Talbert Black Methodists for Church Renewal (U M C – United States)
- Ms. J. Ntombela General President (WM)
- Rev. M. Xundu Chairperson (ECPCC)

## **3. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING**

3.1 Minutes of the 2005 Consultation held in the Natal Coastal District were taken as read and were adopted.

3.2 Matters arising were covered in the agenda as well reports of various task teams as well as the report of the Secretary General.

## **4. SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT**

The Secretary General presented a comprehensive, thought provoking and informative report which raised a lot of issues that were later dealt with during the conversation on the work of the BMC.

The Bursary Committee report was received and adopted.

It was noted in the report that there was no one to be financed through the bursary fund. The proposal by the Bursary Committee for their function to be performed by the Connexional Executive was rejected.

The report of the Molo Commission was received.  
The report of the Leleki Commission was received.

The report was adopted.

## **5. FINANCIAL MATTERS**

5.1 A draft Finance Policy was tabled by the Treasurer and later adopted by the consultation.

5.2 A draft budget presented by the Treasurer was withheld for later presentations.

5.3 The Financial Statement for the year ended 31 May 2006 was presented by the Treasurer and after discussions was adopted by the consultation .

5.4 The Consultation mandated the Treasurer to compile as Asset Register/Inventory to record all equipment belonging to the BMC.

## **6. CONVERSATION ON THE WORK OF THE BMC**

A task team constituted by Nwabisa Mabandla (Convenor), Tello Khodumo, Nokuzola Mbangula, Zuzile Zungu and Mdu Dlamini led the consultation in a process of conversation.

The following were raised by the team,

### ***Areas of concern***

- Branding, identity and logo.

- Participation of the clergy in the BMC
- Laity felt there are Ministers who are against transformation
- Participation in terms of the strategy in the agenda of the MCSA
- Have to be proactive but sometimes we will have to be reactive
- Transformation: Women leadership.
- Growth and sustainability: What is growth? Is it intellect, resources or numbers?
- Structure of the BMC? Commonality between districts and the connexion
- Mandate of the BMC ?

**Proposals:**

- There should be audit of membership, recruitment drive with guidelines for all districts as to how this should operate.
- February Meeting – preparation for Synods, assess how we are performing on initiatives that we embark on, planning our strategic focus.
- Agree on the corporate image of the BMC.
- That the BMC formulate a statement that interprets its understanding of the logo it adopts, so that people do not interpret it as they please.
- Address the issues of women: Campaign around gender transformation, identify champions for women emancipation
- Clarify what must be done, by whom by when.
- February – find out what has been done around various issues.
- Marginalised groups: how do we address the issue of youth?
- Look at how we influence Conference agenda and debate.
- Know who we target : attract those who are standing members of conference ( like Lay reps), and those that will be presenting Districts at conference.

It was resolved that the Connexional Executive should look at the work done by this team together with other discussions and presentations at consultation with a view to develop a program of action for the BMC.

**7. BMC AND INVESTMENTS**

A task team appointed by the Connexional Executive led by Dr. A. Nkonyeni, working with Ms. N. Mabandla, Mr. Z. Jakavula, Ms. T. Zitumane and Mr. T. Ngcobo was introduced by the Secretary General.

Mr. Zandile Jakavula tabled their report attached hereto as Annexure1 on behalf of the Convenor.

The Consultation received the report and resolved that

1. A committee be established to continue with the task
2. Ms. Mabandla (convenor), Mr. Jakavula, Ms. Zitumane and Mr. Ngcobo be the committee
3. The paper be distributed to districts for them to make comments and input to the committee for final presentation in the 2007 Consultation
4. An education drive on Investments be put in place for benefit of individual members.

**8. ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDING BISHOP**

The Presiding Bishop shared his early impression of BMC from the year he came to know about it. He appreciated the well representation of all groups (women, youth, etc) and expressed his wish for such representation in all forums of the church. His address, he paid tribute to Rev. Dr. Sigqibo Dwane and his wife who passed away in a tragic car accident.

Rev Abrahams reminded the meeting that it has gathered to speak truth, to incubate dreams, share vision etc. He argued that the existence of the BMC will only be relevant if the agenda



pursued is the Black agenda. The Presiding Bishop asked whether the BMC was working for the interests of the ruling elite or was it responding to God's call. The BMC was challenged to embrace indigenous knowledge systems. He further challenged the BMC not be the king makers but to be a movement which help us to hold each other morally accountable. He asked, "what is our record in gender equality? What are we doing to support our women ministers and to ensure that women are visible in the corridors of power?"

## **9. ADDRESS BY THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY**

He acknowledged those people that pray for him, as this gives him confirmation that really there is a cloud of witnesses that journeys with him as he continues to serve His church.

The following are issue raised by Rev V Nyobole in his presentation;

- Systems have been put in place to monitor progress within the work of the Connexional Office.
- Time is consumed by conflicts, and these are mostly in the Black Circuits. This drains a lot of the financial resources and stresses the leadership of the church. Something is very wrong within our Circuits. Appeal is that the BMC should consider organizing a seminar on Conflict Management and invite ministers and leaders of our circuits
- Stationing: The system is flawed and not working. The church has to develop a system whereby Ministers can be stationed strategically, worthy of certain key appointments, so that we can build models that are working and have circuits that are flourishing. This will also help in terms of cross cultural stationing. If the Church is committed to healing and transformation then it should make a shift, and people have to adjust to those conditions.
- Performance Management : Whereby people look at your work and let you know in which area you're not doing well. People to review your work, and what performance outputs are you meeting. This way you will be able to bridge the gaps you are struggling in.
  - Enforcement of our discipline : We are not enforcing our discipline ( from Bishops, Superintendents, Ministers). There is no consistency in terms of enforcing discipline. Please observe our Laws and Discipline.
  - Decision making: Illusion is that Conference is the most high decision maker. But the truth is that decisions are made in committees. We need to target committees. These committees are powerful because they research a task, have facts, anticipate questions that might come and have all the answers.
  - Finding creative ways of doing the church.

## **10. ADDRESS BY REV. DR. G. KHABELA**

The Rev. Dr. G. Khabela presented a lecture on Black Consciousness and Black Theology. See Annexure 2

## **11. STIPEND DISCUSSION**

Rev. Roy Govender facilitated this discussion. The discussion document is attached hereto as Annexure 3

The following comments were made in the debate;

- Endorse the need for parity

- Change of the current system, maybe go back to the original system of Circuits
- Apply business principles in the Church life.
- Church to apply its mind to a basic stipend.
- Extensive paper has been produced by Rev Alan Storey (its very comprehensive), it comes from sociological, philosophical background.
- People are invited to have input on the paper.
- Look in a way of fitting in to the process.

The following were adopted as a way forward on the subject;

- Develop a process from the BMC's perspective on the subject and make a submission to the MCO
- Use Rev Govender's work as a genesis of the process
- A task team be assembled around Rev Govender to continue with the work
- This Task team will interrogate various concepts ( equity, parity, multidimensional) on this topic and not limit the debate around equality
- The Connexional Task Team must not be limited to Central, Highveld and Limpopo but extend it to other Districts as well.

## **12. TRANSFORMING OUR STRUCTURES FOR MISSION**

A team led by Ms. Lindeni Madlala and consisting of Rev. A. Mbethe, Dr. G. Zide, Rev. N. Mhlongo and Mr. M. Bikwani (in absentia) facilitated this discussion. Their presentation/s is attached hereto as Annexure 4.

The consultation mandated them to continue with their work.

## **13. MINISTERIAL FORMATION**

Rev M. G. Caba presented a discussion document on the subject. See Annexure 5.

The consultation received this paper and resolved that Rev Caba's team be strengthened to continue the discussion.

## **13. AWARDS**

### **13.1 Corporate Leadership Excellence**

The Connexional Executive introduced a new award for Black Methodist people who go an extra mile in performing their professional work.

Mr. Richard Mputukezi Sodo became the first recipient of this award.

### **13.2 Daphne Tashe Award**

No district received this award.

### **13.2 Mjali Award**

The Kimberley Namibia and Bloemfontein District received this award in recognition of their growth.

### 13.3 Amos Gadi Award

The Natal Coastal District received this award in recognition of their commitment and attendance in the meeting.

### 13.4 Seth Mokitimi Award

The University of Fort Hare received this award for its contribution in the development of the Black Community.

### 13.5 Ernest Baartman Fund Award

The Limpopo District received this award for contributing more to the fund in 2006.

## 14. ERNEST BAARTMAN FUND

Name of District	2006	2005
Cape of Good Hope	2 038. 50	469.60
Central	11 780. 00	7 010. 40
Clarkebury	5 876. 50	8 451.00
Grahamstown	11 950. 20	4 913.00
Highveld and Swaziland	16 635. 35	11 914.00
Kimberley, Namibia and Bloemfontein	10 221. 60	9 985.35
Limpopo	21 248. 90	20 821.40
Natal Coastal	10 869. 20	21 714.75
Natal West	2 929. 20	3 351.45
Northern Free State and Lesotho	249. 39	00.00
Queenstown	11 295. 15	10 593.00
Miscellaneous	399. 96	200.00
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>105 493. 95</b>	<b>99 515.35</b>

## 15. RESOLUTIONS

15.1 The Black Methodist Consultation held in the Clarkebury District on the 5<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup> May 2006 at Ngangelizwe Society (Mthata/Ncambedlana Circuit) voices its concern on the apparent absence of a standardized format in formulating the reports submitted by districts through the bishops to the Connexion. We therefore recommend as follows:

1. that a standardized format be drafted so that all the districts may conform to it in writing their reports.
2. that the report gives a clear process be put in place that the district is informed by all relevant stakeholders.

It is further resolved that a clear process be put in place that the district is informed through synod and be party to the report.

It is further resolved that such a report be endorsed by the District Executive.

Proposed: Ayanda Mjali

Seconded: Sizwe Mvubu

Agreed

15.2 The Black Methodist Consultation held at Alice on the 6<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> July 2006 resolved that the BMC Bursary Fund be opened not to clergy alone but include laity pursuing theological studies.

Proposed: Londi Zulu

Seconded: Noma Aphane

Agreed

15.3 The Connexional Consultation of the BMC meeting in Alice on the 6<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> July 2006 notes with interest the recently released research report: Macro-Social Report (MSR) by the Presidency of the South African government.

The report has inter-alia, focused on the following research areas:

- Social structure and social mobility
- Demographics of race and nationality
- Demographics of age, gender and disability
- Organization of social life and social networks
- Identity and self-worth

The BMC believes that the report raises a number of issues that have impact on the mission of the Church in general and the BMC in particular.

The Consultation therefore resolves to appoint a Study Group to reflect and engage on the findings of this research and determine how the MCSA in general and the BMC in particular should respond on the identified social trends.

The Consultation further directs districts to also engage the Document and contribute their findings to the work conducted by the Study Group.

The appointed Study Group will have to present its work to the February Meeting and facilitate a national comprehensive response.

Proposed: Sidwell Mokgothu

Seconded: Tello Khodumo

Agreed

The Consultation mandated the Connexional Executive to assemble a team around Rev. Mokgothu which will carry the task.

## **16. SERVICES**

### **16.1 Bible Studies**

Inspiring, well prepared and challenging Bible Studies were conducted by Rev. Dr. Libuseng Lebaka - Ketshabile over two days. See Annexures 6A and 6B

### **16.2 Memorial Service**

This service was led by Rev S. Mankayi

Reading : Hebrews 10  
Text (Hebrews 10<sup>31</sup>):

The following departed brothers and sisters were remembered:

District	Name
Natal Coastal	Nompucuko Mafoka T. Ndimeni Doris Gumede
Highveld & Swaziland	Nqabakazi Mzekandaba Petrus Dlamini

### 16.3 Prayer Service for Africa

This service was led by Rev T. Klaas in a hall decorated with flags of the countries forming the continent of Africa.

Reading : Jeremiah 31<sup>1-5</sup>  
Romans 14<sup>1-12</sup>  
Mark 4<sup>35-41</sup>

Sermon Theme : Jesus Calms Storms

### 16.4 Divine Service

The Liturgy of the Divine Service was conducted by Rev. S. Madwe and Rev. L. Mandindi.

Rev Vido Nyobole was the preacher.

Reading : Exodus 3<sup>1-8</sup>

### 16.5 Holy Communion

Rev. Andile Mbethe led the Holy Communion Service.

## 17. OTHER ISSUES

Consultation observed a moment of silence and prayer on Thursday the 6<sup>th</sup> July 2006 in memory and honor of Rev. Dr. Siggibo Dwane, Bishop of the Ethiopian Church and his wife Mrs. Dwane who passed away through a car accident during the week.

## 18. DATE AND VENUE OF THE 2007 CONSULTATION

Consultation 2007 will be hosted by the Cape of Good Hope District at a venue and date to be announced.

## 19. ANNEXURES

Annexures are available from the Secretary General on request.

