



BMC

Black Methodist Consultation

A formation within the Methodist Church of Southern Africa



CONNEXIONAL
OFFICE
2014/15 - 16/17

13 APRIL 2016

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CIRCULAR 009 – 13/04/2016 DISTRICTS PRESYNOD WORKSHOPS

BMC District Executives, District Ex-Officio's and All Members!

SECRETARY GENERAL
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**RE: BMC DISTRICT EXECUTIVES ORGANISING PRESYNOD WORKSHOPS -
GUIDANCE**

Warm greetings to you all dearest BMC District Executives; this is a follow up to previous communication, namely:

**RECORDING
SECRETARY**
Ms Nokuzola Mbangula
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- Email dated **April 4th , nine days ago** ... "2016 SYNOD ISSUES and RESOLUTIONS FOR APRIL CQM" as per Key Decisions taken at PE North thus providing guidance towards Districts Pre-Synod Workshops;

TREASURER
Ms Mandy Motaung
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Key Decisions for Implementation 26 – 28 FEB 2016 General Committee Meeting that was held in Port Elizabeth had also agreed on a minimum package, thus minimum norms and standards for all districts to optimise functioning inclusive of PreSynod Workshops.

*"The MCSA Lilifa
Labazali Bethu; Lefa
Labatswadi Barona"*

PreSynod Workshop is an intervention or activity that responds to two key generic performance areas of the BMC, 'Cutting Edge Capacity Building and Empowerment' as well as 'Strategic Influence of the Transformation Agenda of the MCSA'.

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A. PURPOSE OF PRESYNOD WORKSHOPS

1. To orientate members in particular Synod Delegates on the Critical Important Decision Making Roles and Functions of District Synods in the life of the MCSA;
2. To formally prepare and capacitate with knowledge and skilling delegates on:-
Inputs to the Synod; Synod Processes/Systems and Procedures; the Deliverables and or Outputs of the Synod as well as the Synod Outcomes and Impacts thereof in the Life of the Church;
3. To close the knowledge gap as the lack of preparation of the Synod Delegates whose majority have no mandate from the Constituencies Circuit Quarterly

Meetings (CQM's) with expectations not spelt out nor explored by both the delegates and their constituencies ...

- a. thus synod delegates are vulnerable to receive and accept any information at their disposal without any meaningful contribution, active intelligent involvement given their own context;
4. To engage, lobby and caucus for the BMC position, where decisions were made following discernment processes at Districts and Connexional Leadership Responsibilities e.g. Leadership Succession and Outputs of Discernment

B. SYNOD AGENDA SETTING

Agenda setting refers to actually getting the “problem” on the formal policy agenda and decision making platforms where issues are to be addressed by District Synods and or Conference and or other relevant structures of the MCSA e.g. Revisions/DEWCOM etc.

Therefore BMC PreSynod does not only capacitate Synod Delegates but should ensure key issues/problems from the local churches get into the agenda of the Church with solutions from our own context as Blacks who were previously disadvantaged; through resolutions at Circuit Quarterly Meetings (CQM's)

C. INPUTS TO SYNOD

District Synods Agenda is shaped and formed by, amongst others the ff:

- Resolutions referred to CQM's by the previous **Conference '2015'** [Matters from the Conference, CE as per 2016 year book, Chapter 2 Page 98 - Attached]
- Resolutions from Circuits and Units [*per Blue Book – District Own*]
- Connexional Structures; Revision; DEWCOM; Trust & Property [*disseminated to Circuit Superintendents by MCSA General Secretary*]
- Reports e.g. EMMU; HR & Other Units [*disseminated to Circuit Superintendents by MCSA General Secretary*]
- Conversation on the work of God e.g. Circuit Mission Reports [*per Blue Book*]

IN CONCLUSION

1. Attached is the suggested input on the “***PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO CHAPTER 11 OF THE LAWS AND DISCIPLINE, 12th EDITION***” for Submission to APRIL 2016 CQM's, can be

customised without changing contents {not in pdf to allow editing} Points 1-5 Introductory Changes are in Point 6;

2. Attached is also the “*ELECTIONS ORGANISATION AND COORDINATION PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT TEMPLATE – Detailed Workplan*” as committed on the email dated April 4th, (nine days ago) KEY NOTES AND DECISIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION - GENERAL COMMITTEE HELD 26 – 28 FEB 2016 AT ARTHUR WELLINGTON METHODIST CHURCH; PORT ELIZABERTH NORTH CIRCUIT 218; GRAHAMSTOWN DISTRICT ‘10. Discernment Committee PB Elections in 2016 for 2018 – 2022 Term of Office’

“District EXCO’s are tasked to nominate similar teams as above at District Level ‘to coordinate the journey towards 2016 Synod elections’; **A detailed work plan will be shared with ‘Executives Only’ to inform orientation and induction** for immediate delivery of the District Coordinating Teams; District EXCO’s Submit names making the District Coordinating Teams to Secretariat Office by 23 April 2016; All District Executives and BMC Members are tasked to disseminate the position of the BMC”
{Not in pdf to allow editing on reporting}

3. Notwithstanding point C. above “*INPUTS TO SYNOD*” page 2 above, attached as some of the discussions and agenda inputs to 2016 BMC PreSynod Workshops. {not in pdf to allow editing}

To God Be the glory, great things He had done!

Yours in Christ Service



Mr Xhanti T. Mhlubulwana

Secretary General



Rev Mzwandile Molo

Chairperson